

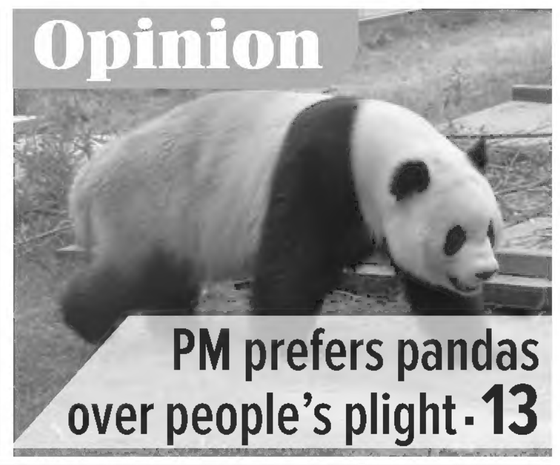
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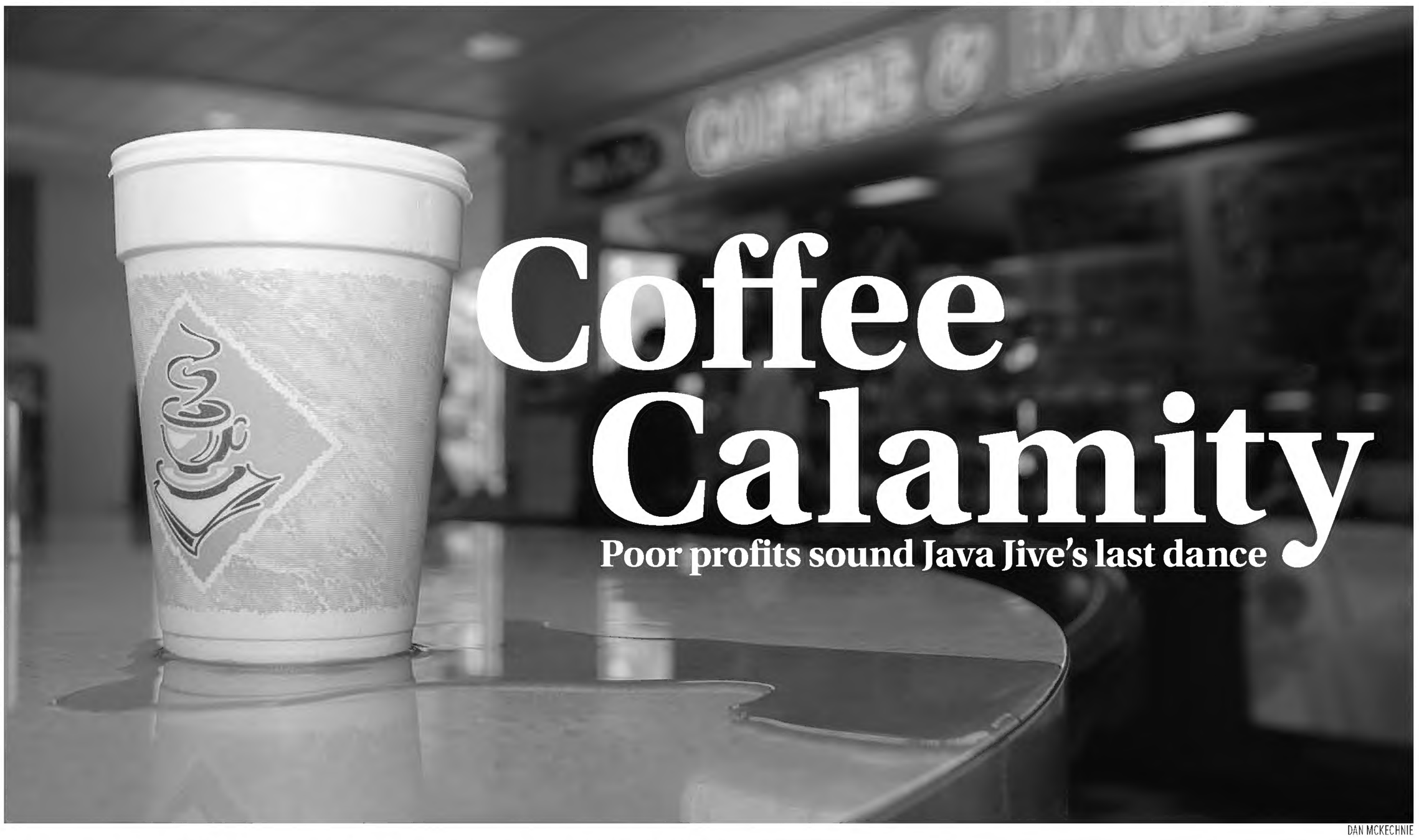
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April 3rd, 2013 ▪ Issue No. 27 ▪ Volume 103

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



Coffee Calamity

Poor profits sound Java Jive's last dance

DAN MCKECHNIE

Java Jive closing after 37 years

Alana Willerton
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR ▪ @ALANAWILLERTON

After 37 years of devotedly serving coffee to students at the University of Alberta, Java Jive operations will grind to a halt by the end of the month.

A coffee staple at the university, the company announced Tuesday that all their locations — one in HUB, one in SUB, plus their store on 99 street — will close their doors at the end of April after years of struggling to stay afloat.

Michael Ould, the founder of Java Jive, first opened one of the HUB locations in 1976, and it quickly became a popular coffee stop for students thanks to Java Jive's dedication to quality specialty coffee. Ould later opened two more locations on campus, as well as Java Jive's roasting facility and factory store.

The university locations, which were extremely popular in their early years, have recently seen a severe decline in traffic. Along with Ould's belief that students are spending less time on campus in general, he also cited Aramark Food Services franchises such as Tim Horton's, Starbucks and Second Cup as competition that have slowly been edging his company out.

"I call it death by a thousand cuts," Ould said. "This has been going on for a few years, and this last year and a half they've really started to proliferate the campus with these satellite outlets and it's cut off the traffic to our locations. So needless to say, we're the ones who are suffering from sharing with Aramark."

Ould stressed that part of the problem was the fact that Java Jive is forced to stay open 12 months of the year, while Aramark franchises can open and close depending on when it would be good business to do so. Ould pointed to the lack of campus traffic during the summer and Christmas months as being particularly financially draining, which have turned Java Jive's university locations into what Ould calls "a six month business."

PLEASE SEE **COFFEE** ◆ PAGE 5

THEATRE **PREVIEW**

Citadel's *Penelopiad* injects female identity into classic literary tale

Billy-Ray Belcourt
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @BILLYRAYB

Greek myths have traditionally been confined to the masculine perspectives of warriors or male narrators who put men on heroic pedestals for violent acts they committed to save society from a monstrosity or malevolent god. But where do women and femininity fit in this time-honoured body of literature? Typically in the form of the goddess, the prominent symbol of femininity with her endless beauty and allure, but also frequently depicted as a distraction or temptation.

In the Citadel Theatre's all-female production of *The Penelopiad*, Canadian author Margaret Atwood's novella comes alive by injecting a male-dominated genre with a sense of humanity and feminism. Her witty retelling of Homer's classic myth *The Odyssey* is told from the perspective of the "original desperate housewife" Penelope, who endures her husband Odysseus's absence while he fights in the Trojan War for 10 years. As hope for Odysseus's safe return to his kingdom diminishes, hordes of suitors jump at the opportunity to marry Penelope. Convinced they have ulterior motives, Penelope enlists the assistance of 12 maids to help stall the men in order to grant Odysseus more time.

In *The Odyssey*, the 12 maids meet an unfortunate fate as their lives are taken at the hands of Odysseus and his son upon his return. As a result, in Atwood's version, the spirits of these 12 women, who were barely represented in the original story, haunt Penelope and Odysseus, speaking on topics from their slave childhoods to their dreams of being princesses. They're given voices not typically granted to female slaves in Ancient Greece, and while their ghosts serve as a reminder of the wrongdoings committed by Odysseus, they also speak to the injustice that characterizes representations of women and other subordinate characters in Greek mythology.

"People deserve not just justice, but an opportunity to tell their story. Penelope's never had the chance to tell her story, the maids have never had the chance to tell their stories (and) in fact they've never even been given names," explains Keltie Brown, a U of A graduate and *The Penelopiad*'s assistant director.

"(*The Penelopiad* is) about the right of every person, of every character, to have a name, a face and an opportunity to see some sort of justice done."

PLEASE SEE **PENELOPIAD** ◆ PAGE 20

"Why does the soap in the SUB bathrooms look and feel like semen?" #3LF page 13

THE gateway

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Suite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665
Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700
Email gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Ryan Bromsgrove
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168

MANAGING EDITOR Madeline Smith
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654

NEWS EDITOR April Hudson
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7308

STAFF REPORTER Katelyn Hoffart
staffreporter@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664

ONLINE REPORTER Michelle Mark
onlinenews@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664

OPINION EDITOR Darcy Ropchan
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR Alana Willerton
arts@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052

SPORTS EDITOR Andrew Jeffrey
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652

PHOTO EDITOR Selena Phillips-Boyle
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648

DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Ross Vincent
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR Alex Migdal
multimedia@gateway.ualberta.ca | 498.1509

MULTIMEDIA REPORTER Katherine Speur
mmreporter@gateway.ualberta.ca | 498.1509

business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Ashleigh Brown
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669

AD SALES MANAGER Vikram Seth
sales@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6700

AD SALES REP Justin Kuchmak
salesrep@gateway.ualberta.ca

GRAPHIC DESIGNER Vikki Wiercinski
design@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6647

WEBMASTER Derek Dowling
webmaster@gateway.ualberta.ca | 498.1509

CIRCULATION PAL Tim Rechner
CIRCULATION PAL Jason Dublanko
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca

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Comments, concerns or complaints about *The Gateway*'s content or operations should be first sent to the Editor-in-Chief at the address above. If the Editor-in-Chief is unable to resolve a complaint, it may be taken to the Gateway Student Journalism Society's Board of Directors; beyond that, appeal is to the non-partisan Society OmbudsBoard. The chairs of the Board of Directors and the OmbudsBoard can be reached at the address above.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **Fairplex**, Utopia, Proxima Nova Extra Condensed, and Tisa. *The Manitoban* is *The Gateway*'s sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." *The Gateway*'s game of choice is Metal Gear Solid III.

contributors

Billy-Ray Belcourt, Annie Pumphrey, Scott Fenwick, Ryan Stephens, Paige Gorsak, Karla Comanda, Kate Black, Jennifer Polack, Ben Bourrie, Atta Almasi, Curtis Auch, Michael Ross, Hannah Madsen, Stefano Jun, Anthony Goertz, Maud Madsen, Emilie St. Hilaire, Julianna Damer, Donna Cave, Kevin Schenk, Kathleen Zenith, Chao Zhang, Griff Cornwall, Dan McKechnie, Fahim Hassau, Matt Hirji

BSA to help students de-stress in style

Annie Pumphrey
NEWS WRITER ▪ @APUMPHREY



TASTY TREATS The BSA beer gardens will allow students some pre-exam relaxatation. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: GRIFF CORNWALL

To counter stress students face with end-of-year assignments and approaching final exams, the Business Students' Association (BSA) is preparing for their 24th annual Beer Gardens, taking place next week on campus.

The event is open to all students, not just those in Business, which the BSA says has been a popular misconception in past years. It's a celebration of the end of the school year, intended to encourage students to put their feet up for a while and unwind from the stresses of studying.

Although some event details still have to be finalized, this year's Beer Gardens will offer students not just beer, but also a range of food, activities and entertainment. BSA organizers are also looking into featuring DJs from the U of A campus to provide live music.

"I want to have karaoke, just as an alternative to having a DJ play. We want to have more interactive stuff," said Jared Zamzow, Director of Events for the Business Students' Association.

"I've been told that it's not very hard to do, so we might have a sing- off ... It will be more than just beer gardens."

Another highlight will be a special drumming-breakdancing-beatboxing performance by U of A student Rémi Lafleche. Following his act, Lafleche will be cutting off his Mohawk and asking for donations in support of cancer research.

"He's raising money for the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, and is going to be drum soloing on Thursday in support of the cause," Zamzow explained.

One issue the BSA has run into in past years is being required to restrict their beer gardens to parking lots.

"There is a lot of confusion over why it's not in Quad," he explained. "I'd love to do it in Business Quad, but when you're doing it in the springtime and the ground is soft, (the university) won't let you do anything on the grass, so you have to do it in the parking lot.

"It's off the beaten path in terms of foot traffic," he added, noting that this year's location, in the "E" parking lot by EAS and CCIS, requires them to find creative ways to market the event in order to get people out.

But despite the name, the purpose of the Beer Gardens isn't just to give students the chance to ingest copious amounts of alcohol on campus — although that may be the intention of some attendees. The event also gives students the opportunity to relax, meet up with fellow students and celebrate two long terms of hard work, instead of simply finishing classes and going straight into exams without a break.

And for those graduating this semester, it also serves as a chance to say a final goodbye to the U of A.

"Events like this are important because they help create that sense of campus pride and camaraderie ... you're going to get a lot more from your university degree if you go out and meet the people that you go to school with," Zamzow said.

"A lot of students only commute to and from the campus and don't necessarily take part in the social aspects."

The Beer Gardens marks the final event of the semester hosted by the Business Students' Association, and one of the last chances for students to celebrate on campus before the end of the school year. The festivities will be taking place next Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12 from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Andrea Ross + Dan McKechnie**

All the Java Jive locations on campus will be closing at the end of the month.

WE ASKED...

What do you think should replace them?



Kacey Otto PHYS ED I

"Opa, because Opa is delicious. There are lots of coffee places already on campus."



Brendan Yao PHYS ED III

"I'd say a clothing store, because there are no clothing stores here! You have to go to the mall — that's so far away. I'm a therapeutic shopper."



Kirsten Peters PHYS ED III

"I would want a dollar store full of cheap candy. I think that would be good for studying, and I have a sweet tooth."



Karly Janssen PHYS ED

"I would have to go with a pet store. Who doesn't love petting puppies?"

gateway

Student-at-Large Board Member

The Gateway Student Journalism Society requires a Student-At-Large from the university community to serve on the Board of Directors of the paper for the term from May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

Application deadline: April 17th, 2013

Applicants should submit 400 words max to Gateway Business Manager:
Ashleigh Brown • (780) 492-6669
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca

Applicants:

- must be U of A students
- must not be members of Students'Council, General Faculties Council, the U of A Board of Governors, or the Senate of the U of A
- must not be current Gateway volunteers

If you are interested, please submit a brief note (no more than 400 words) on why you'd be a good candidate for the position. Please outline previous volunteer experience and not-for-profit organization experience if applicable (though not necessary).

Calendar amendment to give students more course feedback

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER ▪ @MICHELLEAMARK



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: ELAINE YIP

A new amendment to the University of Alberta 2013-14 Calendar will advise instructors to provide substantive feedback to students prior to the withdrawal deadline on how they're doing in a course.

Prior to the amendment, which passed through the March 14 General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting, the policy merely stipulated that 'appropriate feedback' be provided.

Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Dustin Chelen worked on the policy with professor and Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) Bill Connor, and said for years students have voiced concerns about not receiving timely and accurate feedback on their grades before the withdrawal deadlines passed.

"The discussion that happened ... said that students should be entitled to more than just a checkmark on a paper — that they should have some understanding of where they fall into the class, or where they can improve so that they can make a good decision on how to improve, or whether or not they should consider withdrawing from the course," he said.

"It'll encourage more students to ask their instructor, 'Hey, how come you haven't told me what I could improve on?' "

Although the policy contains an ambiguity, stating that substantive feedback 'should' be provided to students, rather than 'must' be, Chelen said such instances will be rare and students will always have the opportunity to appeal their grades.

"The policy ... allows for exceptions if there's no possible way that an instructor will be able to get substantive feeback to the student, but the intention is that there should be very few exceptions to this policy," he said.

However, additional debate occurred during the GFC meeting regarding the precise meaning of the word 'substantive' and the lack of specificity the policy provides.

Professor and GFC councillor Jeremy Richards said when councillors questioned advocates of the proposal on the meaning of 'substantive,' the advocates neglected to provide a concrete definition.

While some suggested feedback of five to 10 per cent of students grades would fulfill the policy, Richards said 'substantive' implies a more sizeable amount closer to 50 or 60 per cent of students' grades.

"It was a distinct change from the original wording ... so the concern was that this might be raising a new level of expectation of the amount of feedback that should be provided, but in very vague terms," Richards said.

"The wording doesn't seem to reflect the actual intentions of the people who wrote this, and the concern is that ... this is going to raise expectations of how much feedback needs to be provided by the course withdrawal date, but without actually providing any hard guidelines as to the amount."

However, Chelen countered that the lack of a definition of 'substantive' will ultimately be an asset, leaving interpretation of the policy open to faculties, faculty members and students — should they decide to appeal their grades.

"'Substantive' is the best compromise that accommodates all of the different assessment schemes on campus," he said.

"Students will be aware of the fact that they should talk to their instructors and their instructors should talk to them. I think it's more of a cultural change in the long term than it is a rigorous academic policy change."

Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) Bill Connor could not be reached for comment.

Houghton: Awards committees stuck in past

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER ▪ @MICHELLEAMARK

When University of Alberta virologist Michael Houghton got the news he would receive one of the world's most eminent awards in biomedicine, he said his emotions swung almost immediately from elation to apprehension.

In a move that stunned everyone from the awards committee to the Canadian virology community, Houghton turned down the Gairdner Foundation International Award and its accompanying $100,000 in March on grounds that the Gairdner committee refused to recognize two of his colleagues as co-recipients.

The committee had listed Houghton as a recipient of the award as recognition for his work discovering and treating the hepatitis C virus. They included two of his colleagues, Harvey Alter and Daniel Bradley, but neglected to include fellow researchers Qui-Lim Choo and George Kuo.

"The problem was the two people I worked with most of all on the discovery in my lab in San Francisco were not included ... all of the genetic engineering and molecular biology that eventually were used to discover the virus was done working with those two gentlemen, and it took seven years to do it," he said.

"It's an unfortunate situation, it really is. I can tell you, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be receiving an award. It would be truly joyous if I can receive it with the five of us."

Houghton said his work with Choo and Kuo dates back to 1982, when the research team decided to focus on using molecular biological techniques to identify the cause of what was then known as "non-A non-B" hepatitis.

From that point onward, the researchers developed further screening tests to prevent virus contraction in blood transfusion patients.

"A couple of years after we discovered the virus, we developed blood tests to screen out the infected blood donations, and before our tests were implemented, there was around about a five to 10 per cent chance of getting hepatitis C following a blood transfusion," Houghton said.

"After we implemented our tests around the blood banks all around the world, it completely eliminated that."

> **"The award committees are not recognizing, not adapting to the reality that big discoveries need big teams."**
>
> MICHAEL HOUGHTON
> RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Although Houghton said Alter and Bradley, the co-recipients for the award, fully deserved the Gairdner's recognition for their work on the virus, he felt Choo's and Kuo's contributions were of equal importance.

"There were good reasons for (Alter and Bradley) sharing in the award," he said.

"I just felt uncomfortable knowing that two of my colleagues working with me closely for seven years, who actually discovered the virus with me, were not able to be direct recipients."

Yet Houghton said the issue of neglected acknowledgement goes deeper than merely the Gairdner Foundation. Many of the world's more prestigious awards committees follow rules emulating those for the Nobel Prize, which only allows for three winners per award due to a stipulation in Alfred Nobel's 1895 will.

"Many people that get the International Gairdner go on to get the Nobel ... and I think the International Gairdner models itself on the Nobel rules and limits itself to three people," Houghton said.

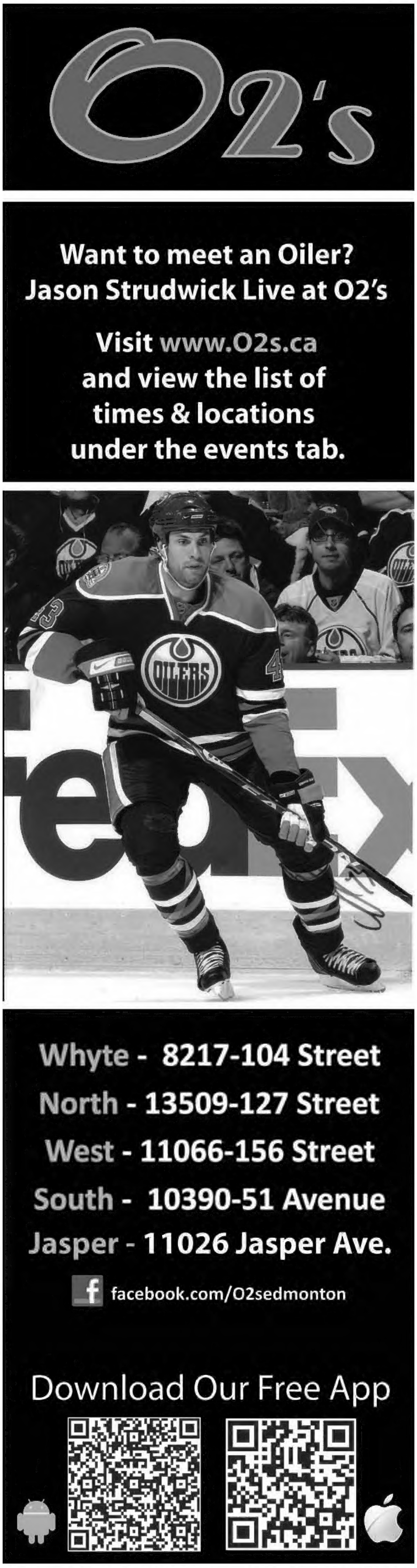
"Quite honestly, the simplest solution to this problem is for major awards committees around the world to acknowledge that these days, big problems need big teams."

Houghton pointed out that in Nobel's time, the world was different and scientific collaborations were much simpler, but present day national and international collaborations are swiftly becoming commonplace and integral to modern discoveries.

"The awards committees are not recognizing, not adapting to the reality that big discoveries need big teams, and it's correct and proper to completely acknowledge all of the key contributors," he said.

"I feel like the message to students is, 'Work with others.' You can really achieve better things when you work with others, and then when it works, do everything you can to make sure that all the key contributors are acknowledged correctly.

"In science ... people are working hard to try and be successful, but we all need others," he added.





SU policy takes steps toward STEP program replacement

April Hudson
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON



POLICY PUSH Petros Kusmu is fighting for student summer employment. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

The Students' Union is hard at work advocating for student work programs following the suspension of Alberta's Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP).

Students' Council approved a first reading of a new Student Work Programs policy last week, which passed through Council for its second reading Tuesday evening.

The new policy stipulates that the SU will advocate for the re-establishment of a provincial student employment program and a review and update of private sector wage minimums in employment programs that provide government-funded wage subsidies, among other things.

"Luckily with this year, with us having a lot of research, having a policy ready, we're in the perfect spot right now to be advocating to the provincial government on what a new program should look like," said SU Vice-President (External) Petros Kusmu, who noted the province is already starting conversations with non-profit organizations about a new work program, although these discussions are very preliminary.

Kusmu is getting provincial and federal student organizations in on the policy as well, hoping to bring it before the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) — a collaboration between the universities of Calgary, Lethbridge and Alberta — at a meeting sometime next week.

From there, Kusmu indicated the SU plans to bring the policy before the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), based out of Ottawa, sometime in May or June.

"In my opinion, VP (Externals) don't normally have the chance to be able to propose to advocacy parties," Kusmu said.

"It sucks this program got cut, but it's good we're at least prepared to fight for it."

CASA already has a student work program policy titled Continuing Support for Youth Employment Strategies, but Kusmu noted it's a little outdated. The policy was adopted in Dec. 1998, and hasn't been reviewed since Feb. 2007.

The policy states that youth employment programs play a critical role in encouraging employers to hire underrepresented students.

It further adds CASA will encourage continued support from the federal government for youth employment strategies and additional dedicated funding for internship, work study and co-op programs.

But despite CASA's policy being old, Kusmu said the SU is prioritizing advocating on a provincial work program and policies above the federal level.

"We're still ticked off about tuition, we're still ticked off about fees, and that requires a lot of pushing, but it's nice to see something brand new come to the table," he said.

The second reading of the SU's policy also requires the SU to advocate that the provincial government review criteria for funding student employment wage subsidy receipts, a resolution designed to ensure students advance skills relevant to their future careers or programs.

Students' Union external advocacy, which Kusmu is particularly responsible for, takes two paths: talking to decision makers and shaping public opinion.

"How I do advocacy for the first part is regularly meeting with MLAs as much as I can, get the message out there, making sure that student priorities are at the forefront of the issues that they deal with," Kusmu explained.

"The other part of it is also coordinating policies and actions with other student associations, because the more united we are the stronger our voices are for students."

The Alberta government's department of Human Services, responsible for preliminary talks with non-profit organizations, could not be reached for comment.

English profs tear apart letter of expectation

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER ▪ @MICHELLEAMARK

Razor-sharp sarcasm and astute criticism pierced a packed Humanities lecture theatre during Tuesday afternoon's teach-in Reading the Mandate Letters, hosted by the University of Alberta's Department of English and Film Studies.

In front of two empty chairs draped with posters of Premier Alison Redford and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education Thomas Lukaszuk, a panel of nine professors picked apart the recently released draft of the provincial government's letter of expectation, analyzing the document's language and attempting to unravel its meaning.

The letter of expectation, previously known as a mandate letter, came in the wake of a 7.2 per cent cut to the U of A's operating grant from the provincial government and includes a series of instructions for the university administration to follow as they navigate through the worst of the budget cuts.

English professor Katherine Binhammer kicked off the event by openly blasting the provincial government as well as the university administration for recent actions taken, which she said have undermined the pedagogical purposes of the institution.

"This government has singled out universities and colleges above every other public institution to attack (in the budget). What is it? Is it scared of an educated populace?" she said.

"This government — and perhaps we can say sometimes the administration of our own university — seems to think knowledge only counts if it can be sold or if it serves business, and we're here today to educate them on how universities function in a democratic society."

Each panellist delivered a short analysis of various components of the letter. English professor Dianne Chisholm criticized the letter's use of coercive rhetoric and hidden meanings, and presented a word cloud of the most frequently used words in the letter's draft, pointing out that the terms "Alberta" and "campus" were the most prominent, while words such as "creativity," "thinking" and "democracy" were not featured at all.

"I'd like to stress that as university employees and free agents, we faculty do not buy the idea of Campus Alberta or the idea that our research and teaching are to be valued solely by market indicators," she said.

"We read the province's mandate letter against the corporate grain in which it was dicatated, and we read it as an exercise of democratic intervention."

English professor Cecily Devereux attempted to deconstruct some of the terms used in the letter and devised 10 questions directed at Lukaszuk regarding the Campus Alberta brand.

"The Oxford English Dictionary provides many definitions of the word 'brand,'" Devereux said.

"Does the Campus Alberta brand mean 'brand' as in, 'The mark made by burning with a hot iron?' Or, 'A sign or mark ... usually with reference to the practice of branding criminals, conveying the idea of disgrace, stigma, or a mark of infamy?'"

Another speaker, English professor Eddy Kent, tackled the importance of language in influencing the world, and emphasized the harm inherent in its misuse.

"In English studies we teach our students about genre and audience — or, at least, I do. This is a letter written by government administrators for university administrators," he said.

"The university has given us a gift in releasing this document. I think they've given us a gift in allowing us to provide feedback for that document — it means we can actually shift the terrain, shift the audience of this letter of expectation."

The university has asked all interested parties for feedback by April 5.

Climate change poses serious problems to polar bear health

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER ▪ @MICHELLEAMARK



POLAR PANIC Along with his team, Seth Cherry has been tracking polar bears. SUPPLIED

The ever-changing Arctic climate combined with swiftly melting sea ice is having direct consequences on the polar bear population in the Hudson Bay ecosystem, according to a recent study published by University of Alberta researchers.

After making the trek up to the Arctic, the scientists compared their data with research dating back to the 1990s and found a clear trend in the reduction of sea ice, resulting in severe ramifications for the sea ice dependent species.

Co-author of the report and renowned polar bear scientist Andrew Derocher said that the accumulated data has revealed a sharp decline in the area's polar bear population.

"We can clearly now document that the bears are responding to the changes in the sea ice very clearly, by coming off the sea ice very early in the springtime and returning to the sea ice later in the fall," he said, noting this means the bears are taken away from food sources earlier and return to them later than usual.

"It's a little bit sad ... the changes in the bears are quite noticeable now, so they're not in as good condition as they used to be, and it's one of the populations that our analyses from our research group here suggests certainly won't make it to the middle of the century."

The team gathered data by catching bears and putting a GPS collar on them, then collecting data about the bears' locations from satellites.

Derocher and the research team have also documented the size of individual polar bears, which Derocher says has grown significantly smaller in recent years.

"There's been about a 10 per cent reduction and a 15 per cent reduction in the body length of females, just over the time period that I've been working there," he said, adding that smaller sizes mean less fat stores, which directly impacts the numbers and sizes of cubs the bears produce.

This in turn will produce a population decline, he said, eventually leading to the extinction of the species at least in the western Hudson Bay area.

"The polar bear capital of the world, which is Churchill, Manitoba, will probably have to find a new name for itself," he said.

"And if our current government has its way, it'll probably be turned into some sort of oil export port, or something like that."

However, Derocher said a vibrant tourism industry has built up in the area around viewing the bears, which could produce interest in keeping the animals around as long as possible.

"That would almost certainly involve some sort of supplemental feeding, which may sound radical, but we actually do that for lots of different wildlife populations around the world," he said.

Lead author of the report Seth Cherry was unavailable for comment as of press time.

The study, Migration phenology and seasonal fidelity of an Arctic marine predator in relation to sea ice dynamics, is available to read at onlinelibrary.wiley.com.

Java Jive packs up as campus coffee competition runs high

COFFEE ◆ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The economic climate on campus has changed so dramatically since Aramark food services came to campus," Ould said.

"It's unheard of in the business world that one company can control three competing franchises. But I guess at the University of Alberta, it's okay.

"The reality is that Aramark has created an environment (where) it's very difficult for us to survive ... Since Aramark has expanded their coffee operations, it's been difficult for us to generate the traffic in both those locations to justify staying on campus."

With their expiring lease agreement also on the horizon, Ould decided not to renew it after getting the impression that the Students' Union would not support a renewal.

Students' Union Vice-President (Operations & Finance) Andy Cheema said he wasn't sure what gave Ould that impression and said the Students' Union is currently in the process of soliciting several proposals for a replacement establishment, which should be decided in the next two months.

"We're always looking for good business opportunities for the Students' Union and we're always looking for a good mix of food court tenants that provide a variety of options for students," he said.

"We are not in the habit of ruling out tenants prior to receiving proposals."

Aside from Aramark franchises, which Ould says have sucked up around 70 per cent of Java Jive's business, the company has also been in competition with SU businesses such as Cram Dunk and L'Express.

"It's just become ever increasingly difficult for independents to really compete when it comes to developing new space," Ould said.

"When you basically squeeze out the independents, it does leave a void."

But despite closing up shop under less than ideal circumstances, Ould isn't bitter about his coffee reign ending.

Looking back over his time at the U of A, he estimates he's served millions of cups of coffee to tired students over the years, and treasures the connections he made with them.

"I don't want any ill feelings, because I have the utmost respect for the students at the University of Alberta," he said.

"They have been our support, they made me successful, I provided them a high quality product. I do whatever I can for students. We were there for the students."

Ould says the outpouring of support following the news of their closure has been unbelievable, and former students and current patrons alike have been stopping in to share their condolences.

Still, he has pragmatically decided it's time to throw in the towel, and can look back on his many years of service with pride.

"I have no regrets. I'm retiring; I've been at it for 37 years and that's almost a lifetime for most," he said. "It's sad, but the reality is there comes a time. Everything seemed to line up for me as this being the time to go."





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Social approval a factor in PTSD

Billy-Ray Belcourt
NEWS STAFF ▪ @BILLYRAYB



SOCIAL SLAUGHTER Students were asked to kill insects in a social validation study. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

The mental health of soldiers may be linked to social morality — a connection researchers from the U of A say reveals the detrimental impacts of some hasty government decisions.

The study, co-authored by David Webber, Erick Faucher, Jeff Schimel, Andy Martens and Joseph Hayes, demonstrated that returning soldiers often look to the general public to assess whether their actions abroad are socially accepted or rejected.

According to Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) resource website Heal My PTSD, 20 per cent of military personnel returning from the Middle East have PTSD — a severe anxiety disorder triggered by psychologically traumatic experiences.

Webber and his colleagues developed an experiment involving university undergraduate students where they tested the students' propensity to kill insects depending on three distinct conditions: the presence of social validation, social invalidation or no support or disagreement at all. As they anticipated, Webber said students displayed and reported more stress and guilt when their actions were challenged and overtly frowned upon by a confederate — an actor employed by the researchers — with opposite results occurring when their actions were accepted.

Although their research did not clinically focus on PTSD or veterans, Webber noted the aspect of killing based on social morality can translate to soldiers returning from war — a correlation Webber suggested clinicians and other experts may not actually consider because of their tendency to attribute actions to internal motives and causes.

"Our research shows that the way you actually experience (PTSD) is dependent on what the people around you feel. So if you're going to experience guilt from something you're going to look for other people to tell you if (what you've done is) right or wrong," he said.

"So clinicians should consider ... the actual greater social environment and ... the state of support for the war to help them understand what it is that's troubling actual soldiers."

Webber explained the extent of social acceptance for a war plays an immense role in the degree to which soldiers experience PTSD. When people consider a war to be illegitimate and not based on concrete evidence, Webber said social invalidation typically takes the form of war protests — a sign of social disproval that reflects the insecure objectives of the government.

"If members of Canada or the US are avidly protesting a war, that's a clear sign of invalidation for a soldier which would potentially put them at a greater risk for psychological harm," he said.

"If wars are based more on irrational fears or insecurities, and the decisions aren't based in hard evidence, those are the situations where as time at war continues and passes, the public will catch wind of that and they will disapprove of what's happening and protests will ensue."

Faucher, one of Webber's colleagues, is hopeful that further studies based on the premise used in their experiment will reveal additional information on the link between heroic-like killings and social validation, and whether that has any influence on a soldier's mental health.

"We would like to see whether we could continue using this bug killing paradigm to examine whether participants would feel heroic or perhaps gain self-esteem if the bugs are portrayed as villains," he said.

"For example, framing the bugs as 'evil' and as something that needs to be annihilated often gives people doing the exterminating, and those endorsing the exterminating, a sense of significance and pride — (for example,) the murdering of Osama Bin Laden."

The study is set to be published in the April issue of Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, which can be accessed for a fee online at psp.sagepub.com.

Students encouraged to "reach out" to their communities during U of A visiting lectureship

Scott Fenwick
NEWS STAFF ▪ @SCOTTFENWICK

Sacrifices made by generations of activists have played a fundamental role in advancing human rights, according to prominent American gay and lesbian rights advocate Lesléa Newman, speaking in the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science March 27.

Newman, this year's pick for the University of Alberta's Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights, seized upon the African proverb of taking a village to raise a child and proposed a similar approach to advocacy.

"Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a village to raise an activist," she said. "I stand here before you because many came before me and then still stand beside me. People have made great sacrifices, including giving their lives so that I could live my life."

Newman became famous for her 1989 children's book *Heather Has Two Mommies*, which depicted a loving family with two lesbian parents and a daughter. American publishers and libraries at the time came under immense pressure from religious organizations not to carry the book. It sent the message that normal families come in all forms — whether it involves two same-sex parents or otherwise.

Newman, who called herself an "accidental activist" during her talk, said many people over the past half century have made sacrifices themselves, which in turn helped to make her an effective advocate. She also championed using writing as a tool for defending human rights and peace, holding *Heather Has Two Mommies* as an example.

> **"I stand on the shoulders of all individuals and married couples who have fought and continue to fight today."**
>
> LESLÉA NEWMAN
> SPEAKER, U OF A VISITING LECTURESHIP IN HUMAN RIGHTS

The book, based on Newman's own family, was part of her own fight for equality. Although she married her spouse unofficially in the 1980s, it was only legally recognized by her home state of Massachusetts in 2004.

Yet she acknowledged that during the same period, numerous American states have moved to either ban gay marriage or government benefits for same-sex couples. Newman reaffirmed her solidarity.

"I stand on the shoulders of all individuals and married couples who have fought and continue to fight today, so that same-sex couples can legally marry in all 50 states and have their marriages recognized by the United States federal government."

Newman particularly credited the successes of gay rights activists in the 1960s and 1970s for laying the foundations of equality for today's generations of sexual minorities. She paid tribute to those that fought back against police raids of gay bars during those decades, as well as to Harvey Milk, America's first openly gay person to hold public office.

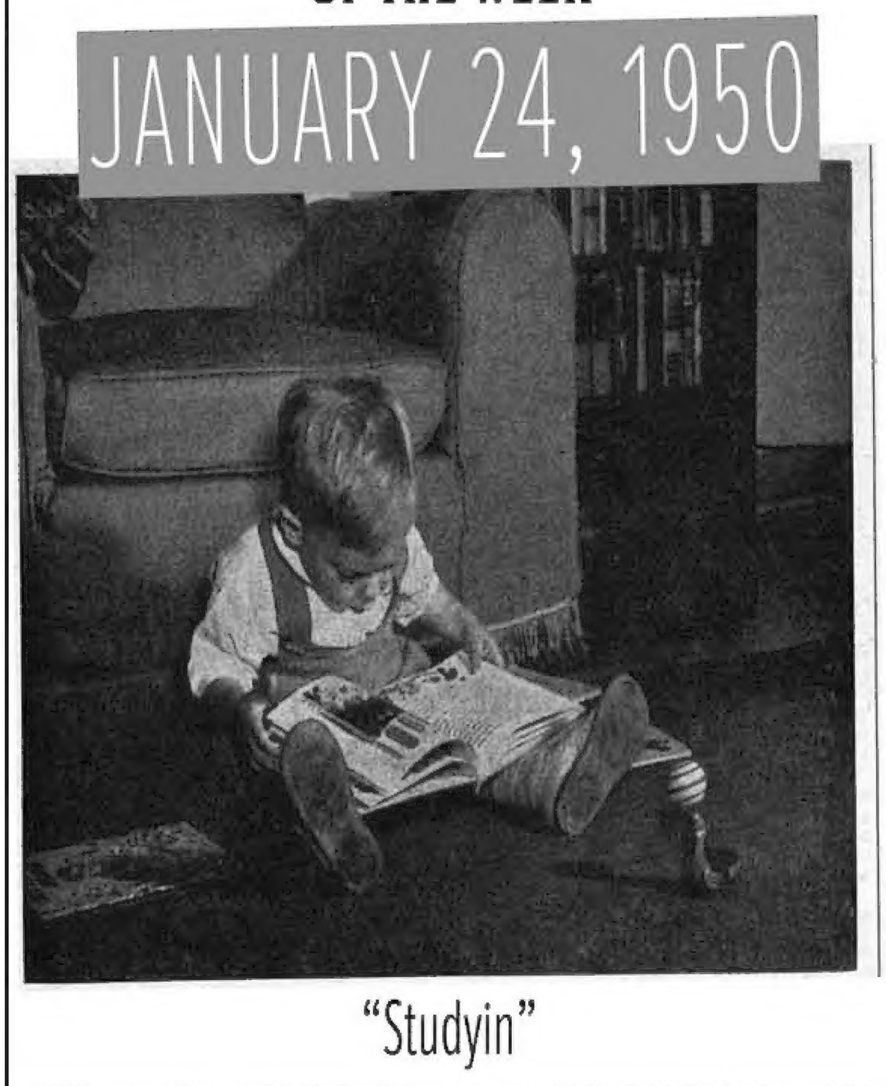
Newman recited part of her short story *A Letter to Harvey Milk* to commemorate his assassination in 1978. She also devoted much of her lecture to the life and death of Matthew Sheppard, a Wyoming student murdered in 1998 for being gay. With Sheppard's picture on the screen behind her, Newman told the audience ways for allies of the LGBTQ community to reach out.

"Reach out to somebody in the community, especially if you know that person's struggling, and just say, 'Hey, how are you? How's your day going?' just so they know somebody cares," she said.

"In Matthew Sheppard's name, I hope you will all be inspired to make a difference. Every single one of us can and must make a difference. We have come very far, but we still have a lot to go."

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Debraj Das

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT

The Students' Union Award for Excellence is the most prestigious of more than sixty Students' Union awards, and is presented to a student in their graduating year exhibiting an overall level of excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities. This year's recipient of the Students' Union Award for Excellence is Debraj Das, a 4th year medicine student.

When asked about balancing school, extra-curricular activities, and his personal life, Debraj says his biggest challenge was multi-tasking a number of different responsibilities simultaneously.

"Thankfully, over my undergraduate degree I have been fortunate enough to learn strategies to avoid becoming overwhelmed." Debraj says.

He says prioritizing, delegating and knowing his limits have really been the keys to his success. "I have been fortunate to be working on projects with other strong leaders as well, which has also played an important role in getting me to where I am today."

Debraj has had many mentors and role models to look up to and spoke about about a professor that has supported him academically and non-academically. From his first day of undergraduate studies, Dr. Tyrrell paved Debraj's academic path and showed him the reward of blending clinical medicine and research. Dr. Tyrrell has has also supported Debraj through personal struggles and has always inspired him to do better. Debraj also notes his other mentors, notably Dr. Sumit Maujumdar, Dr. Paul Armstrong, Dr. Mel Lewis, and Dr. Gary Eitzen.

Outside of his academic studies, Debraj enjoys spending time with friends and family (easier said than done with his busy schedule), playing with his pet birds, long distance running, and hot yoga.

With 6 weeks left to completing his MD degree, Debraj hopes to enjoy May and June travelling the world before returning home to the University of Alberta to begin his residency in General Internal Medicine.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES VOLUNTEERISM AWARD
- *Cara Noble*

BILL SMITH STUDENT MENTORSHIP AWARD
- *Kim Nguyen*

CIBC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AWARD
- *Angela Han*

CRISTAL MAR MEMORIAL AWARD
- *Chelsea Boucher*
- *Ricky Poon*
- *Roxanna Runyon*

DEAN MORTENSEN AWARD
- *Ly Dao*
- *Andrew Wallace*

DR. RANDY GREGG ATHLETICS AWARD
- *Debby Trang*
- *Krista Zubick*

EDO JAPAN GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
- *Maria Montenegro*
- *Ross Swanson*
- *Chris Tonita*

EUGENE L. BRODY AWARD
- *Amanda Annette*
- *Sarah Jo*

EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR
- *Irfan Kherani*

STUDENT GROUP PROGRESS AWARD
- *Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation*

GATEWAY STUDENT JOURNALISM SOCIETY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF EXCELLENCE
- *Ryan Stephens*

HILDA WILSON MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD
- *Bharti Gupta*
- *Vivian Kwan*

HOOPER-MUNROE ACADEMIC AWARD
- *Dianne Semeniuk*
- *Shubham Shan*
- *Philip Stachnik*

JAVA JIVE MERCHANTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
- *Doug Bennett*
- *Sydney Pearson*

LORNE CALHOUN MEMORIAL AWARD
- *Monica Bottomley*
- *Ashley Dalrymple*
- *Catherine Sauvé*
- *Rory Tighe*

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT AWARD
- *Ramya Kandala*
- *Chang (Mary) Zhou*

ROYAL BANK FINANCIAL GROUP INVOLVEMENT AWARD
- *Yuhao (Danny) Huang*

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVISM AWARD
- *Sam Alzaman*
- *Julianna Deutscher*

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR GLOBAL CONNECTION
- *Mina Elmadi*
- *Jane Lee*
- *Lei Li*

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION
- *Karena Tran*

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR PERSEVERANCE
- *Charis Auger*
- *Juanita Delfino*
- *Shan Mei Shum*

STUDENTS' UNION CONTRIBUTION TO FINE ARTS AWARD
- *Emma Kent*
- *Kate Kozakiewicz*

SUBWAY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
- *Chris Ghesquiere*

TACO TIME OUTSTANDING INITIATIVE AWARD
- *Bailey Adams*
- *Moses Fung*
- *Ryan McCoy*

TEVIE MILLER INVOLVEMENT AWARD
- *Natalie Forcier*
- *Michelle Hauer*
- *Sylvia Romanowska*

TOM LANCASTER MEMORIAL AWARD
- *Cian Hackett*
- *Shivani Upadhyaya*

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING
- *Dr. Lech Lebiedowsky*
- *Dr. Dalbir Sehmby*

ACADEMIC SERVICES EXCELLENCE AWARD
- *The Native Studies Students' Association*

BEST EVENT OF THE YEAR
- *The Malaria Initiative for the Taste of Victory Food Festival*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- *Nigerian Students Association*

STUDENT GROUP OF THE YEAR
- *The Last Alliance: University of Alberta Tolkien Society*

COCA-COLA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
- *Rabia Bana*
- *Falmur Binakaj*
- *Natalia Binczyk*
- *Siwei Chen*
- *Kyle Collison*
- *Allyson Cornelis*
- *Joanne Leung*
- *Janina Strudwick*
- *Thanh Tang*
- *Jennifer Yu*

THE REGINALD CHARLES LISTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
- *Kenneth Soong*
- *Finbarr Timbers*
- *Mitchell Wilson*

THE MAIMIE S. SIMPSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
- *Debby Trang*

THE HONORABLE DR. LOIS E HOLE STUDENT SPIRIT AWARD
- *Kirsten Lindquist*

THE HONORABLE DR. LOIS E HOLE STUDENT SPIRIT AWARD FOR 3RD YEAR STUDENTS
- *Amit Persad*

ALUMNI 75TH ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP
- *Kaibree Drake*

SU CENTENARY AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
- *Katherine Evans*

SU CENTENARY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS
- *Nicole Luchanski*

SU CENTENARY AWARD FOR CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT
- *Eric Martin*

SU CENTENARY AWARD FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP
- *Kayla Stan*

SU AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
- *Debraj Das*

Opinion

Opinion Editor
Darcy Ropchan
Phone
780.492.6661
Email
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca
Volunteer
Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL **COMMENT**

York student union divides campus with Israeli boycott

ALTHOUGH THE AMOUNT OF POWER AND LEVEL OF INFLUENCE that a student union has can be debated, it's safe to say that student representatives are elected to provide academic representation and be a voice for students on a wide variety of post-secondary issues. The key words are 'post-secondary-issues.' The York Federation of Students — Canada's largest student association — has overstepped their bounds and alienated students on their campus by endorsing an anti-Israeli boycott. Regardless of views on the Israel-Palestine conflict, YFS has no right to take a stand in this issue and has only succeeded in isolating certain demographics of students on their campus.

The Boycott, Divestment and Sanction Campaign (BDS) is a campaign that calls for cutting economic ties to Israel. YFS is the third Canadian student association to adopt this policy, along with the University of Toronto and Concordia University. The council of YFS voted 18-2 in favour of the BDS campaign. As well as this being the official view of the association, YFS will also put pressure on university administration to cut business ties with Israeli companies and academics.

As should be expected, reaction to YFS's support of the BDS campaign has been met with mixed reactions and strong voices coming from both sides. Chaim Lax, president of the group Hasbara@York called the resolution "fundamentally racist" and a possible violation of York's anti-discrimination codes. Vice-president of YFS Safiyah Husein denied the allegations in an interview with *The Excalibur* saying, "Indeed, not everyone supports reduced tuition fees, equity campaigns or sustainability work, but we know the majority of our members believe this work is vital and important."

Husein is right, but tuition fees, equity work and sustainability are all issues that should fall under the portfolio of student representatives. Issues involving Israel and Palestine are way beyond a student union's jurisdiction. There's nothing wrong with taking a side on this issue, but a student government should not be taking a personal stance.

Lax's claim that the YFS's stance on this matter is fundamentally racist is a bit of an exaggeration, and as a representative of Hasbara, there is definitely a pro-Israeli message and agenda behind his comments. However, Lax is right to bring attention to the alienating actions of YFS and their support of BDS. Not every student is going to support a boycott of Israeli goods and investments, and some may support Israel due to religious or ethnic ties. Some students may not want to take a stand on this issue at all. When a student government adopts a stance, especially on such a contentious issue like this, they are only putting words in the mouths of tens of thousands of students that may not share the same views — which breeds a dislike and distrust of student government and politicians. York students are paying fees that support and maintain their student government. Students who disagree with this issue are mandatorily supporting a student union's stance that they may fundamentally disagree with. YFS's support of BDS leaves these students without a voice or say in this matter.

Vice-president Husein's comments are misguided and fail to account for the scope of this decision. Fighting tuition hikes, equity campaigns and sustainability are not on the same level as supporting a boycott of a country and their goods. And equating BDS with an equity campaign is laughable. Boycotting Israel is the exact opposite of promoting equality and inclusion. Supporting something like LGBT rights is a true equity campaign because it serves to support all students and make campus a more inclusive and safe place. If YFS and other student associations who support BDS truly cared about equality, they would leave this issue alone and let individual students make up their own minds about the Israel-Palestine conflict. If a group of students on campus are strongly anti-Israel, they are welcome to start a student group to come together and voice their views.

Of course, YFS is only a student union and their jurisdiction and reach only applies to their campus — and even then it can be argued that they have no real influence on major university decisions. In YFS's case York University administration has not said they will re-examine their investments and academic ties with Israeli companies, stating that their investments are built on advice from consulting firms. The York Federation of students could learn a lesson from their university administration by staying quiet on the matter. There is no reason to turn a campus into a politically and racially charged environment because of an issue that has no direct bearing on the lives of students.

The York Federation of Students needs to realize its place and how its decisions affect the environment on campus. YFS should be advocating and fighting for issues that have a direct impact on the lives and post-secondary careers of the students they represent. YFS should not be wasting time by taking a stance in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and turning campus into a hostile environment.

Darcy Ropchan
OPINION EDITOR



"WHY ISN'T THE WEST TAKING MY NUCLEAR THREATS SERIOUSLY!?"

ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

New social movements are worth supporting

(Re: *"Protests and social movements cannot achieve the same goals,"* by Annie Pumphrey, Mar. 20)

Ironically, this article contains the same generalizations that you are trying to combat when it comes to social movements. I don't know how long you were at the event but the speeches were substantially more detailed than simply, "Students are the future." If you were to have paid attention than you would have seen two major partyies (NDP & Liberals) pledge their support to the movement. The event offered to bring students into Question Period as a form of Silent protest. So you were incorrect in that aspect.

Also, the breakout sessions had wonderful discussion about how to sustain the movement. I find it silly to think that you were able to make it to the 10 plus sessions that were held so it is unwise for you to make assumptions on the entire movement based on peaking into sessions every few minutes. If you want real reporting then you should have sat through the entire 40 minutes that the sessions were being held.

I understand this is an opinion piece but the perception students will get when they read your article is that CAPSE is just made up of a bunch of radicals. I disagree, I do not think that the next VP (Student Life) (William Lau), professors, or alumni are radicals in any sense. We are students who are concerned about the cuts and we want to make a difference. It is okay for someone to attend a CAPSE with the idea of, "I'm against the budget cuts." That is a starting point and the movement is young. Don't expect us to have an entire declaration already planned. Tell me, when you went to University did you already know everything you do now?

Dismissing this movement after attending one event is ignorant. Also, I won't heed to your calls to, "face (that) its highly unlikely that Alison Redford will change her mind." This is admitting that students are apathetic and will just go with the status quo. In Montreal they were told the same and changed an entire government. Don't underestimate the people.

The solutions you provide are also extremely vague. It makes no sense to have campus officials "collaborate decisions on what programs and services matter the most." With that we are paying more as students for less...

This final note is to the author of this article. Don't be discouraged whenever a new movement springs up. Who knows, it could change the world.

In Solidarity,

Bashir Mohamed
POLITICAL SCIENCE, I

Cuts to education will make things way worse

To the "leaders" of our province:

While I doubt anyone has the power to change what has already been done, I feel the need to express my concerns regarding the recent budget cuts to Advanced Education in Alberta. As a typical undergraduate student, my initial thoughts upon hearing of the massive cuts to education were that I was going to have to take out a loan to pay inevitable fee increases, and that my dream of living with fewer than six people next year was shot. However upon further consideration, I realized my measly middle-class undergrad woes were laughable in the grand scope of things.

Cuts to already underfunded educational programs are simply unacceptable. Since arriving at university I have felt that undergraduates, especially first years, are treated like rats, expected to live in unsanitary dorms and crowded into classes of four hundred. Students cannot be supported and encouraged to learn in such conditions. The trend seems to be to automate the education system. To push students through large classes, have them complete auto-marked online assignments and to end the year with mass examinations to determine which students can output sufficient results to proceed to the next level of processing in order to eventually have the adequate skills to enter the workforce. This is not what education is. Learning cannot, and should not, be treated as a process devoid of human interaction, which is what initiatives such as eClass Alberta seemed to be aimed at accomplishing. I see the value in distance education for providing education to those who cannot physically attend school, however, this is not the best option for the majority of students. Discussion is key to properly understanding any subject, and it cannot effectively be achieved over the Internet or in over-

PLEASE SEE **LETTERS** ◆ PAGE 11

NASA cuts keep science grounded



Michael Ross
OPINION STAFF



SUPPLIED

The economy of the United States has a long way to go before it will be considered anything close to stable — as a result, massive budget cuts are an unfortunate reality. The newest round of sequestration cuts will have a drastic effect on almost all major government departments, but the effect on NASA is particularly worrisome. As a recently released internal memo shows, all education and public activities of NASA are suspended pending further review, meaning that the single coolest way to get people interested in science has been completely crippled.

It's no secret that science education in the United States is severely lacking. Studies by the National Science Foundation have consistently shown high levels of scientific illiteracy, a NSF survey showing, for example, that 25 per cent of Americans think the sun goes around the Earth. A lack of interest or knowledge about science leads the way to people ignoring calls for getting flu shots and being misinformed on major issues such as the environment and governments diverting money away from crucial research.

In order to increase interest in science education, the government mounts occasional publicity stunts — including featuring President Obama in episodes of *Mythbusters* — but the single coolest resource that the government has at its disposal — people who've actually gone to space — is being severely underused.

NASA is great at lots of things: they've developed crazy technology for airplanes and spacecraft, they've got robots that are touring Mars and research they've performed has impacted nearly every aspect of modern life. But the single coolest thing that NASA has to offer is the unmatchable sense of awe in a child's face when they watch a shuttle launch or see an astronaut in person. Every single astronaut has inspired countless children to fall in love with some aspect of science, leading them to pursue valuable careers and continue to push the boundary on what we can do as a society.

And right when things are going so well — right after people hosted parties to watch Curiosity land on Mars, right after people were reminded of the importance of a space program due to hits from small meteors and near misses from giant ones — NASA has had to suspend its outreach and educational activities.

At a time when good science is being challenged by religious fundamentalism on one side and corporate misinformation on the other, the value of a public organization that performs research for research's sake cannot be overemphasized. But producing new technology and publishing new research is still maybe not as important as inspiring the next generation to do even better, and this cannot happen if NASA is crippled to the point that it must suspend its outreach programs.

Cuts are necessary in order to balance a budget, but in order to develop growth, these cuts must not cripple the development of science and technology. The American government should recognize this and address it before it's too late.

Pulling out from UN Drought convention extremely childish



Hannah Madsen
OPINION STAFF

If life gives you droughts, back out of the United Nations Desertification Convention, just like Canada did last week. In a move which seems both counter-intuitive and counterproductive, the Harper government has withdrawn from the Desertification Convention, decreasing the already noticeably diminished presence of Canadians on the largest multinational governing body in international relations today. After Canada failed to win a seat on the UN Security Council, the willingness of the Harper government to put in the effort required to give Canadians a voice has gone out the window, almost like a kid at a party who's not having a good time so they choose to sit in a corner by themselves.

Acting like this is not only ridiculous, but harmful to Canada as a country. As a country which counts droughts among its most expensive and harmful natural disasters, we really shouldn't be withdrawing from a convention that could potentially give us a significant boost from the type of resources that it can draw upon. The Harper government justified its move by saying that the UN council was too bureaucratic and not worth the $350,000 that Canada contributes each year. A much more mature and forward-thinking response would have been to consider the council as a way of providing valuable input and a way for Canadians to forward the goals of the council with innovative thinking. Instead we're going off into our own little corner and isolating ourselves from what could be a very productive discussion.

Additionally, the link between drought prevention and acknowledging climate control makes the Harper withdrawal all the more suspicious, given the complete lack of government action regarding climate change prevention and withdrawal from other significant environmental action venues, such as opting out of the Kyoto Protocol, canceling a meeting with members of the European Union regarding the Kyoto Accords and even the complete disregard of the Accords themselves. The lack of the visibility on the part of the Harper government just follows their typical modus operandi of 'do first, discuss later.'

One of the most frustrating aspects of the situation was how the Harper government handled the withdrawal. Rather than being open and communicative and letting the UN know we were withdrawing as a country from a UN council, the government withdrew and didn't tell the UN about it. There is no reason whatsoever to keep Canada's decision from the UN, especially if it's impacting them and we want to preserve the semblance of transparency. Instead it looks like we were trying to go behind the UN's back, which is detrimental to us and unfair to them. It impacts more than just our relations with the UN and our national stance on drought management: the image this presents to future trading and political powers is that we are not to be trusted — we will turn our backs on an agreement we have been invested in for a number of years and walk out, without letting anyone know we're done.



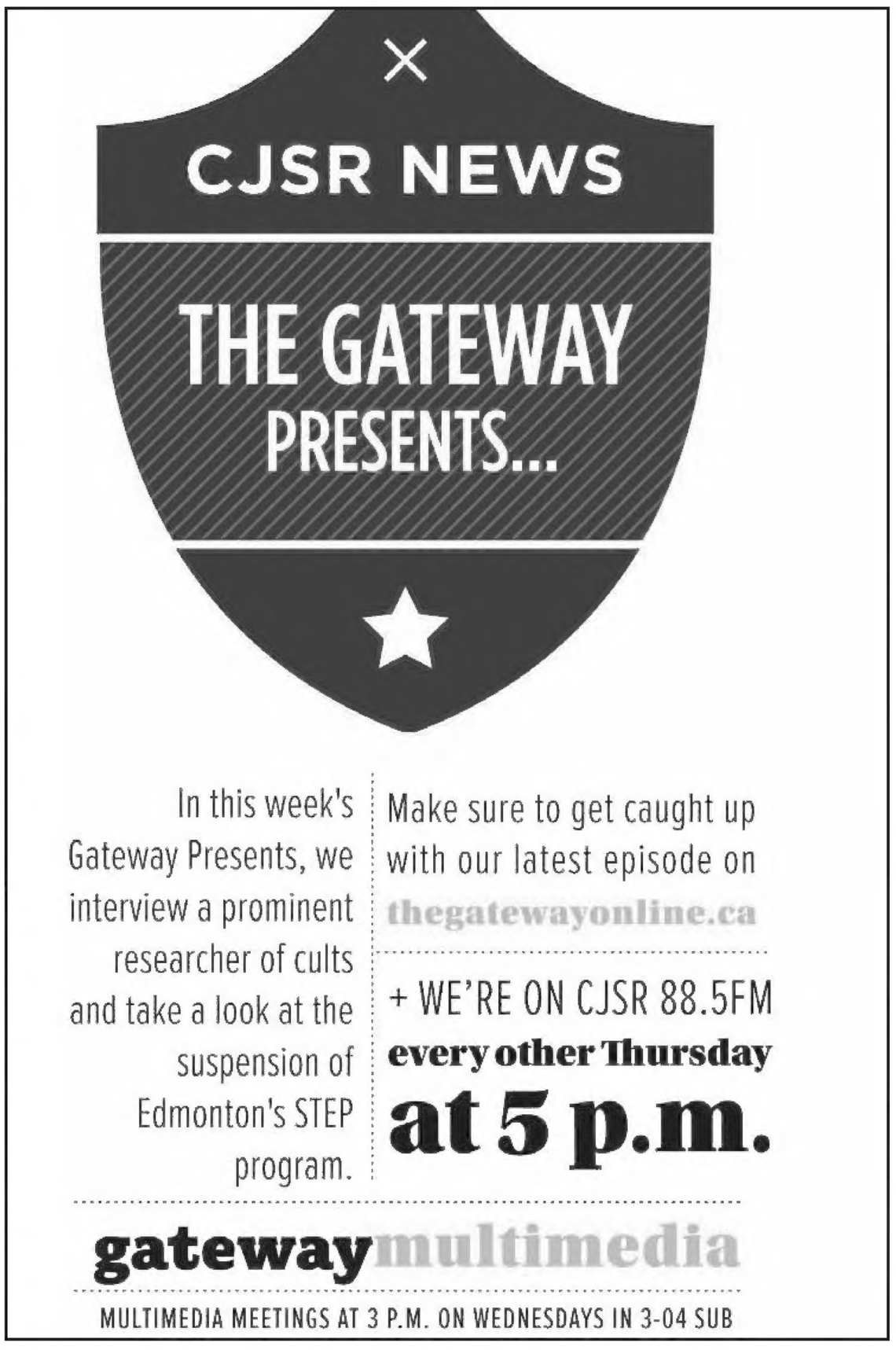




PHOTO ILLUSTRATION GRIFF CORNWALL

Spring sucks: here's why



Opinion Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Spring is supposed to be an exciting time of year. The snow is melting, days are getting warmer and longer and animals are in a rush to mate with each other. But people don't seem to talk about the ugly side of spring. *The Gateway* has compiled a list of reasons why spring really isn't that great.

Annie Pumphrey

With spring comes warmer weather. Now there is no longer a need to wear those three layers of wool sweaters, fleece-lined pants and your balaclava. But don't rejoice quite yet. Those layers of thick clothing were doing far more than simply keeping your body warm during the winter — they were also covering up the fat. For students, the unfortunate part of dressing down for warmer weather is that it reveals the sickly, pudgy bodies that have been hiding beneath all those layers of wool.

Aside from the small percentage of students who actually take care of their bodies, spring is a season of realizing one's physical frailty. Two semesters of improper eating, lack of exercise and minimal exposure to sunlight have devastating effects on the body that range from love handles to severe toque-induced balding. But instead of moping around in your sluggish sack of a body, look on the bright side: it's only a matter of weeks until you can begin the path of rejuvenation.

Michael Ross

Spring's great — unless you're a rabbit.

Think about it. As an Edmonton giganto-rabbit, you have a very narrow window where your body decides it's okay to change colour. The chances of this change perfectly lining up with exactly when all the snow decides to melt are a bit low, likely leaving you with that awkward period where you're either a brown rabbit running around on pure white snow, or you're a white rabbit trying to hide in the middle of a muddy field. Either way, it's a terrible camouflage backfire.

Speaking of camouflage, isn't spring the season when predators all wake up from their hibernation and decide to eat again? Yes. Yes it is. Also, spring is when rabbits live up to their infamous procreation habits, leading to uncomfortable social situations where male rabbits beat each other up for the chance to knock up as many females as possible, and females try to desperately avoid being perma-pregnant.

Spring can be lovely in terms of plants growing and birds chirping, but it's definitely the worst time to be a rabbit.

Billy-Ray Belcourt

A transition period from a ruthless winter to a glorious summer, spring is nothing more than a major tease. Characterized by mild, unstable weather and stubborn snow that just won't seem to melt, spring can turn out to be a huge disappointment.

But the most terrible aspect of this unsatisfying season arrives without anticipation: the insects. Remember them? After fleeing the subzero temperatures of winter they return with a vengeance. Basking in the infinite fields of blooming flowers our not-so-friendly bee acquaintances convene in hoards. Maybe you were planning on frolicking through the grass or trying a new fresh honey recipe you found on Pinterest? Either way it's not going to happen without combating the stingers of these feisty fiends.

Don't count yourself lucky if you manage to escape unscathed. Just as incessant are the red fire ants meticulously watching and waiting for the perfect moment to swarm in on the sandwich you unsuspectingly put down on the picnic table or to nibble on your exposed skin as you stroll through the forest.

As Mother Nature's all-or-nothing clause, with warmer temperatures and vanishing snow comes the return of those small yet irksome pests that make spring a lot less bearable.

Hannah Madsen

Spring can be an awesome season, but it's also a pain in so many ways. It's the in-between season, when it's not consistently cold or warm, wet or dry, rainy or snowy. But the thing I hate most about spring is how it is completely impossible to keep your car clean. In winter there's a sort of resignation, an understanding that it's snowy to the extent that your car will always be dirty. In spring there's a sense of hope and drive to wash your car, but then it rains or there's snowmelt and it just gets super dirty again.

Additionally, there's still lots of salt in the snow, especially right in the beginning of the season when there's still a chance that we'll get some crazy surprise snowstorm. That salt just makes everything look bad, and it damages the vehicle on top of it. Those initial melting periods are definitely the worst.

Darcy Ropchan

Frank Sinatra once sang, "You make me feel like spring has sprung." What the hell was he on? Spring is one of the worst seasons ever, and it's all because of the gigantic puddles covering our streets and sidewalks in dirty melted snow water.

I never understood why people love spring so much. Yeah, I guess that means summer isn't far away, but having to step over massive mini-lakes of water on the sidewalk and getting my shoes, socks and pant legs wet just isn't worth it. It's not hot enough outside to wear shorts, and I'm tired of looking like a dork by rolling up the bottom of my pant legs up. It looks especially bad on days that I neglect to shave my legs.

Perhaps the worst thing about it all is that the temperature still isn't that warm, meaning that puddles still get frozen over in the early morning and late at night. During the day, my clothing gets soaked ,and at night I slip and slide all over the frozen puddles, nearly breaking my neck. Spring isn't nice — it's actually pretty dangerous.

LETTERS ◆ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

sized classes. Furthermore, learning content should not be the sole objective of any school.

Cuts to graduate programs and research initiatives also seem short sighted to say the least. Corporate investment in education seems to contradict the purpose of university research projects in producing original, unbiased results. That is why our universities need public funding.

In conclusion, I find the government's recent treatment of our education system despicable. I would be happy to pay more taxes if it meant living in a place where education was encouraged and valued. It pains me to think of those less fortunate than me with important, unique skills who simply do not have the financial and emotional support necessary to succeed in the current post-secondary education system in our province. The failure of the Alberta Government to appreciate the importance of education truly makes me wonder if this is a place I want to live and raise a family in after I graduate.

Elizabeth Ramsey
GEOPHYSICS, II

You guys do good work at *The Gateway*

After five years out of country, I arrived in Edmonton to painful sinus congestion, all devouring consumerism, record March snowfall that had me digging my father-in-law's minivan out of a snowbank, and Bob Seger's concert postponement. I was blue.

Then I snuck a copy of your March 20 edition while riding the LRT and the world seemed alright again. The LGBTQ community getting it done, a chance to meet Jason Strudwick and finally: Strombo preaching "Accountability is fucking key." With cuss-words unedited, a protest march on the Leg, Indira evading direct questions; sightings of the work of an at-large Poop Bandit; a narcissism argument feat. a bro named Douche Brewski; the cursive capital G getting some play; #3LF that had me in stitches; the Prairie Wrestling Alliance front and center; Hnidan's mustache shining out on page 19; Willerton making the case my wife does, that in winter blankets are in fact clothing; the football team winless in two years; and that Life is actually alive and living and might just be Okay.

Your newspaper is spectacular. Everyone contributing to or featured in your newspaper is spectacular. Credit is due. Don't do anything different, except by doing everything even better.

Graham Lettner
ALUMNI

FROM THE WEB

Views on body types need to be changed

(Re: *"The Vexed Vagina: Rethinking Beauty,"* by Bethany Zelent, Mar. 21)

Great article, I can tell that you are very passionate about empowering women against the impossible standards of society. I would like to propose an alternate solution to changing a whole view of society and to instead promote self-acceptance. The image of some ideal form of beauty will always exist, whether it is the skinny toned body of modern day or the voluptuous Victorian body in olden days. Having either image is equivalent to having an impossible form of beauty based on environment, and promoting either one would always lead to a portion of women being unconfident about their bodies. Women come in different shapes and sizes, and although stick thin Victoria Secret bodies are hard to live up to, completely disregarding them is unfair to naturally thin girls that now are uncomfortable with their bodies because of yet another thing society tells them. Also we must caution ourselves on the harsh languages we use on others, no matter if they are Victoria Secret models, as they themselves are possibly struggling with body issues are constantly bombarded with hate comments. We must fight bad body image issues at the source where everyone is in control, and that is self-acceptance. By promoting that, every women can accept the fact that there are things in life that they cannot change and embrace themselves in spite of it. What other people think or do is out of our control and that should be alright because it that is what makes us all different. Whether slim or curvy, all body images should be embraced. We must acknowledge the fact that we are all human beings and we succumb to faults like envy and hate, but instead of trying to change everyone around us to think the same way we do, we much first change ourselves and everybody else will follow. Let us not hate each other and instead learn to love ourselves. Ghandi said "We must be the change we want to see in the world."

Carlie Yeung
VIA WEB

Dove campaign is not that inclusive for girls

(Re: *"The Vexed Vagina: Rethinking Beauty,"* by Bethany Zelent, Mar. 21)

I find the Dove campaign still limiting on the 'range' of the ladies represented, and it may be because of the negative reactions that may come out. These ladies still look like they have some nice curves, no birth scars, acne, boyish hair, piercings, pink or blue hair, size XXL etc. Discovering the website mybodygallery.com was helpful. It made me see how real ladies look according to height, weight and shape. I don't wear makeup, jewelry or nail polish at work. I make it up with professional, appropriate clothing, a smile and energy to do my job well. First impressions count, but is a mask of make-up really necessary? I don't think so. Being happy and genuine radiates beauty more than product.

"Mirror"
VIA WEB

Do not forget that lipstick is wonderful

(Re: *"The Vexed Vagina: Rethinking Beauty,"* by Bethany Zelent, Mar. 21)

Ah yes, but lipstick is still the best lip moisturizer around!

Donna Cave
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature.* The Gateway *also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

The end is almost here , folks. I'm talking about the end of The Gateway's *publishing year. Are you angry? Tell us about it. We care about what you have to say*

Jay Onrait and Dan O'Toole

LIVE and in person, hosting

Edmonton @ Minnesota



Friday, April 26

$4 pints and half price wings!

Central SOCIAL HALL

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PM pandered with pandas over dealing with Aboriginal affairs



Billy-Ray Belcourt
OPINION STAFF



PHOTO CHAO ZHANG

When it comes to fulfilling Aboriginal treaty and constitutional obligations, Stephen Harper's track record is almost as depressing as his blatant disregard for meeting with Canada's Indigenous leaders. His handling of First Nations concerns can be equated to that of a political stupor in which greeting imported pandas gets precedence over Aboriginal youth. In light of Harper's unnecessary panda photo shoot, it's unquestionable that the Conservative leader's priorities need to be refocused.

As unwavering First Nations youth — popularly referred to as the Nishiyuu walkers — arrived on Parliament Hill completing a gruelling 1,600-kilometre trek which began on a remote reserve in northern Quebec, the Prime Minister opted to frolic at the Toronto Zoo with pandas flown in from China. As a means to garner awareness for Idle No More, seven youth from the Whapmagoostui reserve set off on Jan. 17, arriving in Ottawa on March 26 with nearly 300 participants who had joined the commune as it passed through various communities. Harper's absence was quickly acknowledged by various politicians, including Green Party leader Elizabeth May and NDP leader Thomas Mulcair who were in attendance to commemorate the group's achievement.

Coined "a pair of China's national treasures" by Harper himself, the arrival of the pandas is suggested to be a step in improving Canada's foreign relations with Chinese leaders. However, instead of focusing on safeguarding global trading partnerships, our Prime Minister should re-examine his relationship with a nation that has direct influence in whether or not his party is elected to Parliament. More importantly though, with the current deplorable state of some Aboriginal communities and the little progress being made on fostering a more understanding settler-Indigenous relationship, Harper should grab any opportunity to show public support.

Immediately following his ascension to political power in 2006, Harper dismantled the Kelowna Accord — a promising initiative aimed at progressively improving education, health, housing and finances on reserves drafted through negotiations with Aboriginal leaders, premiers and the former PM Paul Martin. Since then, Harper has implemented controversial and unilateral legislation including Bill C-45, a major player in the formation of Idle No More.

This grassroots movement proved Aboriginal people have the capacity and passion to advocate for their inherent rights and the ability to generate widespread domestic and international support, an indicator that their voices won't be silenced by Harper's apathy and insincerity for his own citizens. While Harper posed for a photo op with the pandas, dozens of speakers pleaded for the Conservative government to introduce concrete policies that would alleviate the hardship encountered by many First Nations peoples and communities — a sad reality that recurrently gets placed on the back burner as a problem that can be dealt with incrementally or at another time.

Harper's unfulfilled and disingenuous promises are starting to sound like a broken record — the most recent example being his pledge to build a stronger working realtionship with Aboriginal peoples after meeting with Assembly of First Nations leaders in January — a meeting that came only after weeks of protests, public outcry and hunger strikes. Harper needs to give more than an insincere verbal statement. It may not be much, but showing support by attending events like the Nishiyuu arrival in Ottawa is a great place to start.

Endless federal government regimes, be it Conservative or Liberal, have rarely approached Aboriginal leaders and their concerns with respect or understanding. It's time that our country's first peoples are met on equal ground and not dismissed for a play date with a couple Pandas. Harper is increasingly finding himself under public scrutiny for his dealings with First Nations peoples, a trite approach that needs to see his priorities shift in order to create a more tolerant society that allows for Aboriginal peoples to meet their full potential.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

engineers in hist 391..you are all the worst, stop whining about writing a goddamn paper and no essays cannot be in point form you stupid fuck

Couldn't administration wait until AFTER the semester was over to implement Beartracks changes? Seriously.

I'm a sailor peg,
and I've lost my leg.
Caught at the top sails,
I've lost my leg

newsflash and insider tidbit to all you first years wasting money on candy bars on campus hey buy them at a dollar store and bring them to school in your pocket, its way cheaper (m&ms might be $2 though)

Butts

what is read and black and white all over, this newspaper

provincial funding cats at the u? hey how about some funding for dogs "mans best friend" my favourites are the golden retriever and the poodle, each great companions

scarface is on at the metro hmm lets see, that much be a movie about michael jackson and all the plastic surgery he had to his face before dying

Can we get a computer gaming cafe on campus so that people will stop having LAN parties in the library

Nothing like sitting down at a desk in the computer lab and finding fingernail clippings all over the desk.

Performer Created Theatre: 50 minute performance with everyone in class. Fuck that.

It's not considered "silent" if someone else can hear you. Whisperers, this means you.

Need some man meat

Marching music is my favourite!

Yes, please invite your 3 obnoxious friends to sit at the table I'm working at and chew your gum like cows. THANKS.

Snow on the first day of spring. Maybe I can play a medley of Vivaldi's spring and winter together? their melodies could work....

I'M SO HORNY

Finally won on Rollup the Rim... now I'm only 1 and 20!

Senior citizens are a valuable source of knowledge and information. We can learn so much from them. So please lets give these old cunts the respect they deserve.

Thanks Three Lines Free for printing my stuff. I am only trying to right the wrongs in this joint.

Has anybody ever masturbated to Alfred Hitchcock?

Why does the soap in the SUB bathrooms look and feel like semen?

What shit student newspaper! Yes, some of it's OK, but the other drivel it prints is the rule rather than the exception. Then again - minor exceptions aside - what else can you expect from a second-tier technical institution in the provincial backwater?

The Gateway *reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF submission it deems racist, sexist, libellous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature.*

"Dinosaur farts? I don't know."



*IN CONTEXT:

Klein was speaking about what may have caused the ice age.

gateway opinion

It's all about perspective.

MEETINGS WEDNESDAY AT 5 IN 3-04 SUB



THE STUFF OF LEGENDS

MUSEUMS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ON CAMPUS

BY KATELYN HOFFART
PHOTOS BY KEVIN SCHENK

Neat display cases and carefully organized shelves host beautifully embroidered clothing from the late 19th century; ancient pottery and artifacts from the Greek, Roman and Egyptian worlds; the remains from a meteorite that launched into the earth in a fiery crash years ago.

You might expect to browse through finds like this in a large museum with crowded lines and pricey admission. But nestled away in quiet corners and building basements lies a host of artifacts and stories just waiting to be discovered — right here on campus. Some are modest museums with regular hours open to the public; others are vast collections and archives that can be explored with a simple e-mail to make an appointment.

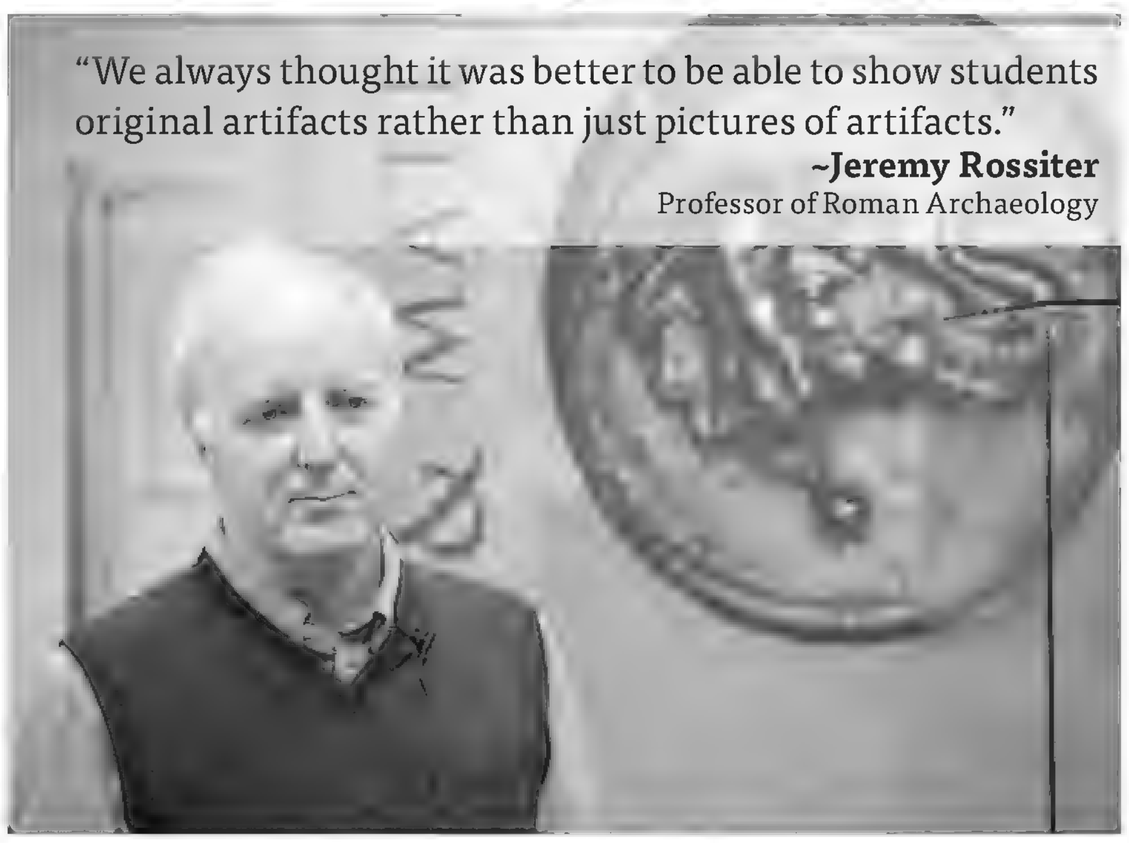
The University of Alberta has 29 registered museums and collections on campus that collectively contain more than 17 million objects and specimens. A whole network of archaeological, material, artistic and cultural treasure exists for students to feast their curiosity and wonder upon, each item with its own unique story woven in between the fine carving details of second century Roman sculpture, the threads that hold together a century-old traditional Ukrainian sorochka or even a diamond in the rough.

You just have to know where to look...





"We always thought it was better to be able to show students original artifacts rather than just pictures of artifacts."
~Jeremy Rossiter
Professor of Roman Archaeology



W.G. HARDY MUSEUM OF CLASSICS

In the first century AD, Roman troops led by the British governor Agricola marched through dense forests and desolate marshes northward into Scotland. They advanced further than ever before to establish Inchtuthil, a legionary fort that could hold more than 5,000 men, standing their ground against local tribes. The massive wooden fort was a key northern military centre, yet less than 10 years after it was built it was completely dismantled, with the Romans never to return.

Nearly a millennium later, one of the hundreds of thousands of iron nails found buried at the site — nearly a foot in length — sits in a display case at the W.G. Hardy Museum of Classics. Located on the second floor of the Tory Building, it's no bigger than a small classroom, but holds a variety of wondrous material remains from the ancient world.

A permanent collection of antiquities from the Greek, Mesopotamian, Egyptian and Roman worlds line the shelves against the walls of the museum, ranging from glistening coins to fine sculpture, ornately decorated pottery and even glassware.

This collection was established in the 1970s and found a home in Tory 2-89 back in 2000. The museum is named after William Hardy Alexander, a Classics professor who taught from 1908 to 1938. Volunteers in the department — usually grad students — run the museum, which is open to the public Monday through Thursday. Professor of Roman Archaeology Jeremy Rossiter has been the curator of the museum for 25 years, and has been around to see many items pass into the collection.

"We always thought it was better to be able to show students original artifacts rather than just pictures of artifacts," Rossiter said.

"The idea was to bring in a small representative collection of ancient artifacts and artworks which could be used for teaching. I always point out to students that this is not the Royal Tyrell Museum; it's not the British museum.

"It's a very modest collection, but we're also at the same time very pleased with some of the objects we have here."

Items have been acquired by different means throughout the years: donations are occasionally made while other items are purchased — although this is becoming increasingly difficult with the lack of funds available. Many have made their way from archaeological digs, such as the ceramic pottery from ancient Carthage, North Africa that Rossiter excavated himself.

Coinciding with the Classical Association of the Canadian West conference last weekend on March 22, the museum just opened a new exhibit, entitled Margins and Materiality. The purpose is to expand the view of the classical world past the boundaries of ancient Greece and Rome into the territories they associated with and expanded into. These areas focus on Britain, East Asia and North Africa to view the ancient world in a globalized context.

"We have artifacts from the Near East that come from places like Yemen and from Afghanistan which belong to cultures which were not classical in themselves — they were not part of the Greek or Roman world — but they were certainly influenced by Greek and Roman culture," said Rossiter.

"The Romans and Greeks before them were deeply interested in cultures located outside their immediate political realms."

One rare item that greets you as you walk in the door is a realistic stone bust of Antonia Minor, niece of Augustus and mother of Claudius, who ruled from AD 41-54. Only three other sculptures in the world of this woman are known, and while time has left its mark, it remains remarkably well preserved.

Another head sculpture gazes towards Antonia, this one originally a much greater distance from ancient Rome. High-resolution 3D scanning technology was used right here at the U of A to make a model of a Bodhisattva head to tie in the theme of the exhibit. The original fourth century stucco head from Gandhara, Pakistan lies in the hands of the Department of Classics, much too delicate to put on display. The head reflects both Indian and Classical styles, demonstrating the two way process of cultural exchange.

A host of other ceramic objects sit neatly on the display shelves, along with coins that display a series of Roman emperors and depictions of other aspects of life in the ancient worlds. It's hard not to let imagination take over and envision the hands these material goods must have passed through, the structures they supported, the accomplishments they commemorated.

Whether it's a nail from a great legionary fort, a decorative fibula that would have held an elite's cloak in place or a bowl that would have been passed around the company of a lively banquet, the mind is left to wander through the past with the curiosities of the W.G. Hardy Museum of Classics.



KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE

On the second floor of the Old Arts Building is a small room with hundreds — likely thousands — of audio record tapes, each lined neatly beside each other with the dates written in white marker. The tapes sit inside just a few storage drawers, facing a bookcase with numerous colourful vinyl records gathered from across the world. This is just one of the small cold rooms that Maryna Chernyavska, archivist of the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives, looks after, each hosting a diverse and unique collection of Ukrainian history.

The archives are a part of the Peter and Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore (Kule Folklore Centre), driven by Bohdan Medwidsky in 1977, who taught a small handful of Ukrainian folklore classes at the time. He began collecting a host of essays, recordings and other items in his office, with a variety of spaces such as HUB mall being used until 2009, when they received the current space in Old Arts.

While not actually a museum, the collection has provided items for a host of different local and national exhibits. It also serves as a valuable resource for students, the greater Edmonton Ukrainian community and people even further across North America.

Curator Andriy Nahachewsky worked alongside Medwidsky as a grad student, and has since helped to preserve history with items such as Ukrainian popular music, books, traditional clothing, audiotapes and videos of loved ones telling their stories.

"A bunch of collections are coming in to us, and we're really trying to focus on music. Another big thing we're trying to focus on is personal histories, memoires, that kind of thing in their various forms, whether they're audio recorded or somebody hand wrote it, or their grandfather's diary, or they published a book about it," Nahachewsky said.

One of the other "special access only" rooms contains a small closet with ornately stitched traditional Ukrainian tunics, known as sorochka.

One that stands out to Nahachewsky in particular is cream-coloured with black and red stitching. On the lower left side of the garment, the faint outline of upside down black block lettering is immediately noticeable.

He explains how the original garment was made in Ukraine during the late 19th or earlier 20th century. Whoever wore it got good use out of it: the garment got worn out and a salt sack was used to replace the material, making this item unique.

The same room also hosts delicate books, maps and other materials, each in their own file. Other various items are carefully stored, such as an old, hollow ostrich egg painted with traditional Ukrainian patterns — known as a pysanka — from Brazil.

In the main centre itself, a large table sits in the middle surrounded with neat rows of books on the left, many of them donations from the Ukrainian-Edmonton area community. The focus is to provide teaching materials to visualize learning and provide a greater sense of what these items meant to those who used them every day. Nahachesky explains by pointing to three very different spoons spanning from across the 20th century.

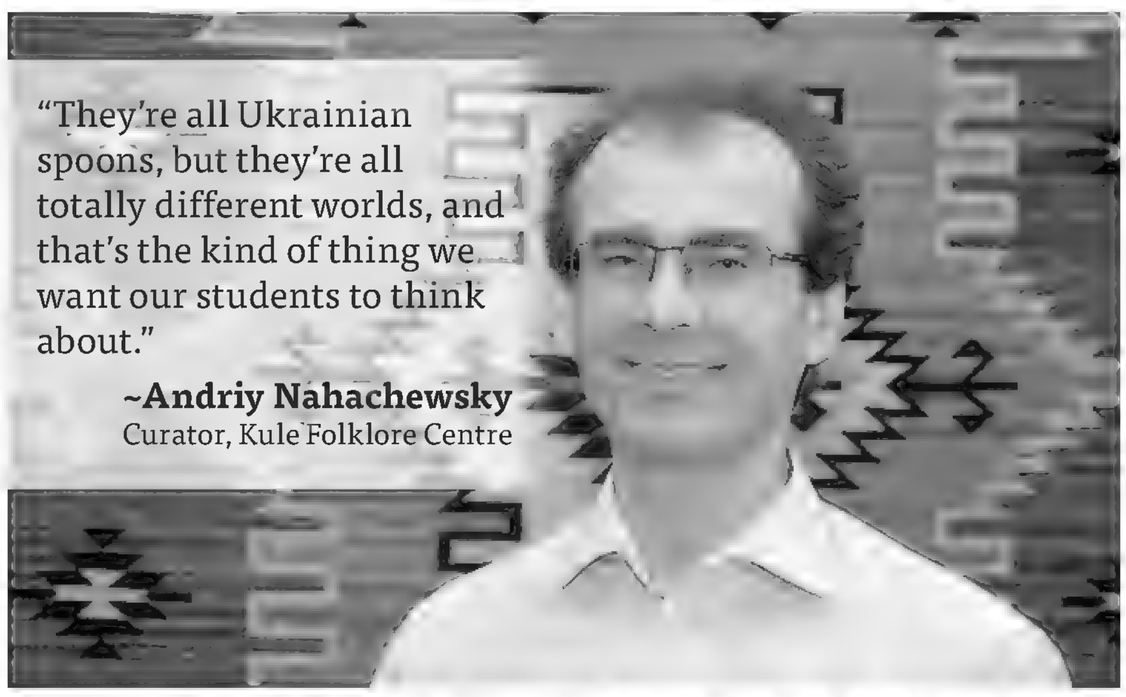
The first is a large, hand-carved spoon from the first part of the 20th century that would have been used by Ukrainian peasants. The second is a factory-made, brightly painted souvenir that would have been sold to tourists — its lacquer makes it unsuitable for dining purposes. The last one he points out as a modern Ukrainian spoon "because I used it for yogurt for lunch, and I'm a Ukrainian."

"They're all Ukrainian spoons, but they're all totally different worlds, and that's the kind of thing we want our students to think about. What is something that is inherited into its culture, what becomes a symbol of its culture, and what is a creative element of its culture," Nahachesky said.

These spoons are a symbol of cultural adaptation and evolution, much like the other objects, as well as the memories embedded on the black tape of audiocassettes and videos. Thousands of these items have been digitized, but the goal is to receive a grant in order to continue this process with the highest quality for future generations. The collection could hopefully in the future include technology for users to conduct detailed searches that pinpoint certain keywords not only in text, but in photographs, objects and even specific points in tapes or cassettes that would normally take hours to search through.

Though small in size, it's clear that the Kule Folklore centre is huge in passion and care for the diverse preservation of Ukrainian history, whether embedded in a photograph, song, novel, clothing or other unique object.





"They're all Ukrainian spoons, but they're all totally different worlds, and that's the kind of thing we want our students to think about."

~Andriy Nahachewsky
Curator, Kule Folklore Centre

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Mineralogy/Petrology Collection

Established in 1912, this museum is one of the oldest on campus, and the collection of unique rocks and minerals has an interesting variety of colourful, eye-catching specimens. Located in the basement of the Earth Sciences Building, this display includes a global meteorite collection, one of which you're allowed to touch. Some other highlights include diamonds in the rough — the precious material in its untouched form — as well as a 625-million-year-old sample of native copper.

Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology Collection

Down in the Tory Building basement, this particular collection houses a wide range of historic and prehistoric items from across the globe. Plant remains, stone and metal tools, ceramics and other pottery highlight the vast evolution of humankind.



Arts & Culture

Arts & Culture Editor
Alana Willerton
Phone
780.492.7052
Email
arts@gateway.ualberta.ca
Volunteer
A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY Paige Gorsak

USS

With Owls By Nature
Friday, April 5 at 7 p.m.
Starlite Room (10030 102 St.)
Sold out

"Remember the days when your laughter was meant / Remember the days when you did what you said." Though these lyrics by USS frontman Ash Boo-Schultz are nostalgic for an uncomplicated childhood, don't assume the group is a downer. With the help of his partner in crime Jason "Human Kebab" Parsons on turntables, Ontario band USS's catchy dance rock stylings explode into impressive songs and even more exciting shows. Typically augmented by crazy antics — from making smoothies on stage to Tasmanian devil-inspired dance moves — USS is not a concert you want to miss.

Dust

Presented by Northern Light Theatre
Written by Jason Maghanoy
Directed by Trevor Schmidt
Starring Paul Sutherland and Monice Peter
Friday, April 5 - Sunday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. (no shows on Mondays)
$20 for students at tickets.fringetheatre.ca, free preview for students Thursday, April 4. Pay-what-you-can Tuesday, April 9

Even in the most depraved spaces and places, love has the power to conquer all. In *Dust*, Canadian playwright Jason Maghanoy pulls the audience down into the depths of Abu Ghraib Prison, an Iraqi penitentiary where US military personnel abused and tortured prisoners. It's in this dark place — amidst both torture and indecency — that Jenny, an office worker, and Jonathan, a prison guard, fall in love. While the subject matter is heavy, the play's focus is on the subtleties of the characters, exploring the limits of love and the magnitude of hope.

Beef Dip/Tuna Melt Album Release Party

Sunday, April 7 at 9 p.m.
Wunderbar Hofbrauhaus (8120 101 St.)
$10 at the door (free copy of album upon entry)

Though you may have missed the oppourtunity to have your laugh immortalized forever on Jon Mick and Craig Martell's joint comedy album *Beef Dip/Tuna Melt*, you can still experience the hilarity of the local comedians telling jokes at their album release party. The evening will feature the comedic stylings of other Edmontonian funny people, as well as the musical musings of local band Bonspiel, an amped-up, country-rock quartet who characterize their music as "curling rock and roll."

Jurassic Park 3D

Directed by Steven Spielberg
Starring Sam Neill, Laura Dern and Jeff Goldblum
In theatres Friday, April 5

In 1993, Steven Spielberg's *Jurassic Park* won an Oscar for Best Visual Effects. Twenty years later, with the magic of IMAX and 3D technology, the film's raptors and T-Rexes will return to the silver screen digitally remastered and better than ever. The iconic film tells the story of a zany millionaire (Richard Attenborough) who clones prehistoric reptiles to feature in his new amusement park and two dino experts (Sam Neill, Laura Dern) who accompany him to preview it. The tale gets wild and wacky as the dinosaurs rebel, an employee sabotages the park and a hurricane arrives on the scene.



ALANA WILLERTON

Local filmmaker strives for horror film glory in Canadian competition

U of A grad Lindsey McNeill competes for $1 million prize in CineCoup Film Accelerator contest

FILM PREVIEW

Gillian's Just Right

WRITTEN BY > Lindsey McNeill
DIRECTED BY > Lindsey McNeill
STARRING > Lindsey McNeill, Angela Palmer, Richard Lam, Gray Wilson Ford, Kirk Starkie, Gavin Belik and Justin Brunelle

Ryan Stephens
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @STEPHENSJRYAN

Creating a subversive feminist horror film certainly isn't the easiest way to attract attention and funding from film producers and moviegoers. Fortunately, a new online competition for filmmakers, the CineCoup Film Accelerator, shows no prejudice, rousing dozens of independent filmmakers nationwide to build their film project from the ground up by using social media support to measure success. With a prize of $1 million in funding and a release in Cineplex theatres across Canada going to the most creative independent film, CineCoup is diving straight into the creative heart of Canadian cinema.

Lindsey McNeill, an Edmonton actress and filmmaker, has entered the competition with her film *Gillian's Just Right*. The film tells the story of a girl who discovers she may be next in a series of murders in a small town, but rather than idly accepting her fate, she uses herself as bait in an attempt to discover the killer's identity. McNeill was inspired by a wilderness myth that claims bears have an attraction to menstrual blood, using this idea to question the extent to which women innately attract acts of violence.

As a horror aficionado, McNeill understands the necessity of gore in the genre, but it's her intention to explore the associations between women, fear, the body and blood that she says likely scared away potential investors.

"The female body is definitely something that is still mysterious and not talked about, and I really want to exploit that," she says. "It's probably a reason why this movie was passed on by producers that I pitched, because they didn't want to go there, but I'm happy to.

"And if I alienate people, whatever. I know that I've got a strong demographic that would be so delighted that somebody is finally doing something like this."

> **"For Canadian audiences, this is a whole way to see that there is amazing cutting-edge production that is happening in Canada. It's just not being funded. And if people realize that, particularly people with money who like film and want to invest, I think they'd realize that we're such a competitor in the international film world."**
>
> LINDSEY MCNEILL
> DIRECTOR, *GILLIAN'S JUST RIGHT*

By eschewing traditional methods of discovering the next box office hit, CineCoup gives most of the power to the fans, who get to vote on their favourite projects.

To keep the competition rolling, filmmakers face weekly challenges that force them to gradually develop their film concepts into reality. The challenges range from designing promotional posters to creating a behind-the-scenes video highlighting the creativity needed to make a film look professional with no budget. As fans increase their participation, they're rewarded with bonus votes that give them an advantage when the competition moves to the next round.

But the real reward is that fans are able to interact directly with the filmmakers and contribute to how the films are made.

"People want to see behind the scenes. They want to know how your poster is developing, and they want to feel like they can contribute," McNeill says. "So I think this competition has been an excellent forum for building a fanbase and letting Edmonton know that we're building this film here and that we need their help. And it's not necessarily financial help, it's giving feedback."

McNeill is participating in CineCoup both as a filmmaker and a fan, praising the contest for creating a closer connection between the two while eliminating any sort of profit motive. For Canadian cinema, which is largely drowned out by Hollywood, the visibility that CineCoup creates is huge.

"For Canadian audiences, this is a whole way to see that there is amazing cutting-edge production that is happening in Canada. It's just not being funded," McNeill argues. "And if people realize that, particularly people with money who like film and want to invest, I think they'd realize that we're such a competitor in the international film world.

"We produce something that's more edgy. We're not cookie-cutter. Canadians are a little bit weird. We're a little twisted, so everything we produce is going to be very original and a little bit strange."

McNeill has found no shortage of grassroots support in Edmonton. Thanks to CineCoup as well as local campaigns such as Make Something Edmonton, *Gillian's Just Right* is gathering a growing army of followers who are eager to volunteer in any way, helping with everything from production to publicity. McNeill hopes CineCoup's monetary reward will allow her to pay the film's devotees, though she's grateful for the generosity she's already received and optimistic about the future of Edmonton's creative renaissance.

"I think it's very revolutionary to have that mentality, and ultimately it's going to be something that lasts, because it's something that more and more people can get involved in," she says.

"Everyone is just looking for a chance to create something."

Rapid Fire experiments with long form improv at Bonfire Festival

THEATRE PREVIEW

Bonfire Improv Festival

PRESENTED BY > Rapid Fire Theatre

WHEN > Tuesday, April 9 - Sunday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m., 10 p.m. shows on Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13

WHERE > Citadel Theatre (9828 101 A Ave.)

HOW MUCH > Festival passes $30 at tixonthesquare.ca

Kate Black
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @BLAHBLAHBLACK



SUPPLIED ANDREW PALL

"It's funny, because our name is Rapid Fire, and sometimes I think, 'Does the name just dictate how we are?' "

Rapid Fire Theatre lives up to its name in more ways than one. As Artistic Director Amy Shostak explains, the local improv company is known for being quick-witted and verbal in their performances, while never hesitating to break boundaries between audiences, styles and comfort zones. There's a risk involved to be sure, but it's one that RFT has always been more than willing to tackle.

Bonfire, RFT's only long form-exclusive festival, is arguably one of the company's most adventurous projects to date. Kindled to allow performers to showcase skills learned from international workshops, the festival serves as a training ground within a style of improv that is newer and less-practiced in Edmonton.

Now in its second year of production, the Bonfire festival continues to melt the lines between styles and between the audience and performer — something Shostak says is key to successful improv theatre.

"Whether it's through YouTube or how people are so involved in social media, there's kind of this idea now that on Twitter you can talk to your favourite celebrity or whatever. In improv, it's the same thing where you can shout out an idea and a scene can happen about your idea, rather than a more traditional form of theatre where it's more passive," she explains.

"So I think the culture's actually changing, and the more someone can be in the show, the better they like it."

Now in its second year, the Bonfire festival takes the concept of audience participation to the next level, and one of the performances this year even will solicit never-before-told secrets from the audience, which will be integrated into an improvised show. A similar idea to projects such as PostSecret, Shostak feels the approach will be refreshing for those watching since the "audience will be ahead of the performers" in some sense.

Performer Richard Lam explains that the theme of the festival also revolves around innovation by allowing the players to collaborate and work with new ensembles, including a collaboration between children performers and senior performers older than 65.

"I love just seeing what people come up with. Everyone is doing the thing that they've always secretly wanted to do, which makes the excitement on our end really, really, really amazing. Everyone is so happy to be there and you see the coolest shows that would never get the chance to be performed," Lam says.

From a collaboration with four local musicians to a performance over Skype with Winnipeg improv troupe Outside Joke, this year's Bonfire bridges gaps between technology and live performance — all of which come with a heightened added risk of something going wrong.

"When you throw open the door to the stuff we do at this festival, there's all kinds of new problems, like, is our Skype even going to work today? On top of that, you still have to do a good show and listen to each other and do good improv in kind of a shell that you aren't used to," Lam says.

But in the spirit of experimentation, Shostak says creative advancement always trumps the underlying fear of messing up. And even if worst comes to worst, you can probably still get a laugh out of it.

"The great thing about improv is that audiences generally like the show whether you fail or succeed," Shostak says. "As long as you fail in a positive, happy manner, the audience is usually totally with you."

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Chenlei Zhang**



Julia Vlasenko
MSC COMPUTING SCIENCE III

GATEWAY: > Describe what you're wearing.

JULIA: > Most of my clothes are coming from different places. The skirt is from a yard sale in Edmonton. The shirt is from a second hand store in Ukraine. My backpack is from Urban Outfitters. The scarf I got from a friend in France. The shoes are also from Ukraine.

GATEWAY: > What's your favourite spring fashion look?

JULIA: > I really like wearing shorts with tights because I like wearing shorts, but I get really cold easily when the temperature drops in Edmonton. I like wearing dresses or skirts of any kind.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

datapp

WRITTEN BY **Karla Comanda**





4 Pics 1 Word

COST > Free

PLATFORM > iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch

The game 4 Pics 1 Word is quickly emerging as one of the most popular apps today — and it's easy to see why. The deceptively simple game will have you wracking your brain for that all-elusive word, and leave you feeling way too satisfied when you finally get it.

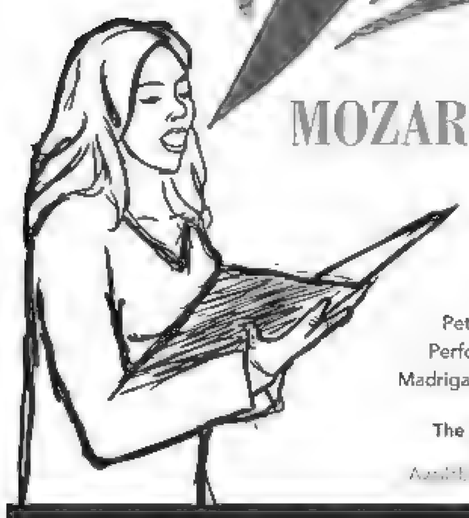
While 4 Pics 1 Word is easy to navigate, the same can't be said for the game itself. The premise involves finding a common thread among four pictures using the allotted letters and boxes to solve every level. If you get the answers right, you get to proceed to the next level.

Some levels in the game have pretty obvious answers, while others will have you working for days trying to figure them out. Thankfully, there is help should you get stuck: you can delete some letters from your set or buy a letter with coins, which you earn throughout the game. You can even share a screenshot of the level on Facebook and get help from your friends, making 4 Pics 1 Word a fun and challenging collective experience.

While the advertisements every few levels take away the fun of playing a little bit, 4 Pics 1 Word is still one of the best ways to kill time while still getting you thinking.

Dat app is a weekly feature that highlights the best apps out there.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
MUSIC AT THE WINSPEAR



MOZART'S GRAND MASS IN C-MINOR
April 7, at 8:00 p.m.
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The Francis Winspear Centre for Music, Edmonton
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SUPPLIED

BioShock Infinite enraptures new and long-time fans alike

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

BioShock Infinite

DEVELOPED BY > Irrational Games, 2K Marin and Human Head Studios
PUBLISHED BY > 2K Games
AVAILABLE ON > Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360 and OS X

Ryan Bromsgrove
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ▪ @RYAWESOME

BioShock Infinite is a relatively average shooter game with a fantastically realized setting and an involved story — including an ending gamers are already spending thousands of words at a time discussing. While the combat lacks punch, Booker DeWitt's adventures aboard the flying city of Columbia are just plain cool enough to result in a experience that won't be forgotten.

The player takes on the role of Booker, a man tasked with rescuing a girl from a tower in a floating city called Columbia — easily one of the best and most original settings for a video game since the original *BioShock* introduced us to the underwater city of Rapture, with the sun shining brightly on beautifully colourful 1912 architecture floating on gigantic blimps. A silent movie informs us that the city floats due to the work of scientist Rosalind Lutece in quantum physics — though they like to assume it's all "women's intuition." Yes, coy sexism permeates the city, along with shameless racism and class exploitation — all of which, from our 2013 perspective, perfectly and painfully undermine its utopian ambitions.

Zachary Comstock, the game's antagonist, led the city's secession from the United States and basically erected a religion around the Founding Fathers. After being baptized to gain entrance to the city, Booker awakens under the gaze of angelic statues of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. Styling himself a prophet, Comstock has the city believing Booker is the False Shepherd and sends an army to stop him.

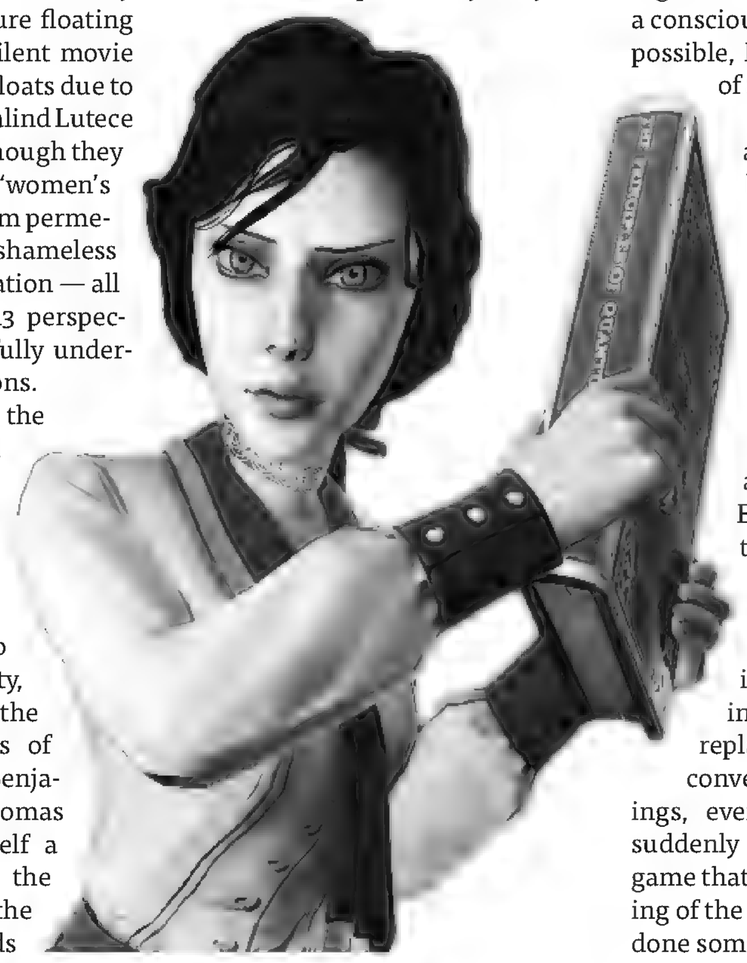
The game's combat is more or less the same as previous *BioShock* installments, though with a few tweaks. The power-bestowing plasmids are renamed vigors, but do essentially the same thing: give you a variety of non-gunpowder-fuelled means of attack. So the standard electricity-slinging returns, along with powers that allow you to turn an enemy to your side, fire crows, throw fiery grenades and more. There are some decent combo attacks you can do by firing one, then quickly switching to another and firing that too, but on the whole, while the mechanic isn't boring, it's nothing special.

The guns are styled around what you might somewhat conceivably find in the game's year of 1912, but nothing pops out as that interesting. And unfortunately, *BioShock Infinite* drank the modern game design Kool-Aid mandating that you only get to carry two guns at a time. Yes, it's more "realistic," but it's less fun than being able to switch from your pistol to your machine gun to your rocket launcher. And what place does "realism" have in a game set on a flying city in the year 1912 housing a girl with weird powers anyway?

Rather than have Booker accomplish his goal of rescuing the girl from a tower at the end, it happens fairly early on. Elizabeth then accompanies Booker throughout the bulk of the rest of the game as the two attempt to escape the city. In safe areas, she will independently explore the environment and sometimes find money or make a comment or two.

Thankfully, during combat, rather than employ the annoying escort mission mechanic of demanding the player protect the defenseless companion by watching her health, telling her to hide and so on, the game allows Elizabeth to take care of herself. While she doesn't directly fight back, she won't get herself killed, will occasionally toss you supplies, and can pop guns, cover, turrets and other useful goodies into existence by opening up small tears to other universes — she wasn't locked up in a tower just because they didn't want Booker to find her.

While the story itself is engrossing — I mean, there's a floating city and other universes here — the telling is flawed in parts. There's a section in the middle where you have to obtain guns to arm an uprising, and Booker and Elizabeth make some completely non-sensical choices in order to do nothing more but skip along the plot. And the ending can kind of come out of nowhere and leave a lot of questions unanswered unless you've been meticulous about picking up the voice recordings left around the city. Even with a conscious effort to find as many as possible, I only managed to get 60 of 80.



But those shortcomings and the mediocre combat are all forgivable. It's worth pretending that middle section doesn't really exist and that instead of looking up transcripts on the internet, you actually did find the recordings in-game, because the experience as a whole is just too good. Exploring this world is, at the end of it all, more than worth the flaws. And once you know that final piece of the story, watching things fall into place is incredibly satisfying. If you replay, seemingly innocuous conversations, voice recordings, events, nosebleeds — they suddenly have meaning. And any game that can flip your understanding of the story on a second play has done something amazingly right.







JENNIFER POLACK

More to Western Canada Fashion Week than meets the eye

FASHION PROFILE

WCFW unites Edmonton's local fashion industry

Jennifer Polack
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @JENPOLACK

Fashion shows are one of the simplest forms of entertainment and the most basic of spectacles — that is, to anyone not involved in fashion. While on the surface they often appear effortless, the amount of time and dedication committed to creating a quality fashion show is worthy of recognition and acknowledgement.

Even in Edmonton, where there's the ever-present stigma that good fashion can only be found in hotspots such as New York or Milan, we have the means, the passion and the drive to put on a world class show. Edmonton's biannual Western Canada Fashion Week is when all of our local talent congregates in one week of fashion, chaos and art.

But the mystery of what goes on backstage of and prior to the actual show is one of the reasons why there's an assumption of simplicity associated with the runway. Shining light on what makes for a quality fashion show, Executive/Creative Director of WCFW Sandra Sing Fernandes reveals that one of the trademarks of a successful runway show involves not only artistic talent, but also flawless communication between all parties involved.

"I think that what a lot of people don't understand is the amount of effort that goes into creating a good fashion show," Fernandes says.

"There's not only the clothes and the fit, but the models have to be able to walk, the music needs to sync up, the hair and makeup have to look good ... it's about all those little details working together and all those people having good communication that makes a good show."

There are many aspects of a fashion show that appear subtle and inconsequential, but addressing these minute and crucial details is essential to its overall success.

One of the more prominent factors of a fashion show is the clothing collections themselves, which require fittings with the models to be done far enough in advance to leave time for alterations. Designers also need to choose their models, see their walk, make sure their look goes with their collection and confirm their availability.

Then it's meeting with makeup artists and hairstylists that are just the right mixture of talented, crazy and brave enough to put full hair and makeup on 15-odd models in a tiny back room of the TransAlta Arts Barns with lights that shine at approximately 35 C. For Dakota Lightning, who has been modelling in Edmonton for the past three years, being transformed by talented hair and makeup crews prior to a show is nothing new. And despite misconceptions, Lightning maintains there's much more to being a model than looking pretty and walking down a glorified hallway. In fact, the maintenance of certain looks can sometimes make modelling ugly.

"They give you a call time and then you show up, do your hair (and) makeup, then you wait for a couple hours for the show to start," he says.

"One time, I was body-painted and I had these plastic prosthetic things that went over my mouth so it looked like there were chains sewn into my lips. I had to go the whole day with that, and I couldn't eat, drink or talk."

The level of commitment displayed by both models and designers weeks prior to the show is compressed into one hectic day — or in the case of WCFW, one hectic week — for the technical aspects of the show. Working with light and sound technicians to make sure the music is perfectly synced and the lights are just the right level of moodiness to achieve that chic nonchalance on the runway — nearly impossible without hours of chaotic preparation — must be accomplished in a matter of minutes during a brief walkthrough.

"I think the biggest misconception about a fashion show is that it's all organized and put together. That's not the case," says Kevin Kraus, who was in charge of audio productions at this year's WCFW.

"We constantly had our runners going to tell models to get ready for their show in five minutes, and we had a situation this year where the designer didn't show up until 10 minutes before the night started. It's actually very chaotic."

Despite the crazy nature of any fashion show, WCFW is continuing to grow, and Fernandes says the shows in Edmonton are anything but amateur productions.

"It's exciting because WCFW is starting to get a lot of attention both locally and internationally as well ... Our set-up is world class. We can put on a world-class show," she says.

"I've done shows all over the world, and there is very little difference between those shows and the ones we do here. It's just a matter of continuing to get our name out there and getting people to come out."

Bringing people to the Arts Barns to check out WCFW year after year, however, rests solely on the craftsmanship and talent of artists and designers. Since Fashion Week drew to a close last Thursday, designers are already beginning to think ahead to their next collection. Derek Jagodinsky, head designer of LUXX Ready-to-Wear, views the highs and lows of Fashion Week as part of the daily grind as a designer in Edmonton.

"A fashion show is very anti-climactic. There's all this hype leading up to it, like making sure the hair and makeup is perfect and my models are ready ... but after it's all over, people expect you to be all fabulous but you're like, 'I need to pack my looks up and get out of here before everyone leaves.' " Jagodinsky explains.

For Lightning, as a model, it's not just the collections or the spectacle of fashion week that draws his attention. Instead, it's how it ignites the local fashion communities artistic spirit, inspiring an almost exhilarating expressive freedom.

"It's a really cool place where people can express themselves about certain things ... with fashion week you take your ideas to this creative space and just run with it," he says.

Despite the complexity and chaos associated with a good fashion show, at its heart, WCFW really is all about creative expression. Whether your medium is clothing design, makeup artistry, hair styling, modelling, photography or sound and lighting, Fashion Week is a haven to take your creativity and put it on display for everyone to appreciate.

It's about showing Edmonton and the rest of the world that fashion is here. It's alive, it's local, but most importantly, it's flourishing.





JENNIFER POLACK



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FRASER INSTITUTE

The Penelopiad a retrospective glimpse at ancient greek myths

THEATRE PREVIEW

The Penelopiad

WRITTEN BY Brenda Bazinet
DIRECTED BY Margaret Atwood
STARRING Nadien Chu, Ellen Denny, Sarah Machin Gale, Beth Graham, Claire Hesselgrave, Mary Hulbert, Katie Lawson, Alison MacDonald, Margo MacDonald, Alison MacKay, Carly McKee, Lisa Norton and Catherine McNally
WHEN Runs Saturday, March 30 to Sunday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m., matinees Sunday, April 7, Thursday, April 11 and Sunday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. (No Monday shows)
WHERE Citadel Theatre (9828 101A Ave).
HOW MUCH $36.75 and up at citadeltheatre.com





KATHLEEN ZENITH

Billy-Ray Belcourt
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @BILLYRAYB

PENELOPIAD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Through Penelope's many narratives, she expresses her thoughts on the characters first introduced in *The Odyssey*, as well as the historical misconceptions that have molded her as an archetypical, ideal housewife. As the tale recaps Penelope's life in retrospection from the 21st century in Hades, it adds a modern, cautionary tale element to the story and a warning to fictional and real women alike.

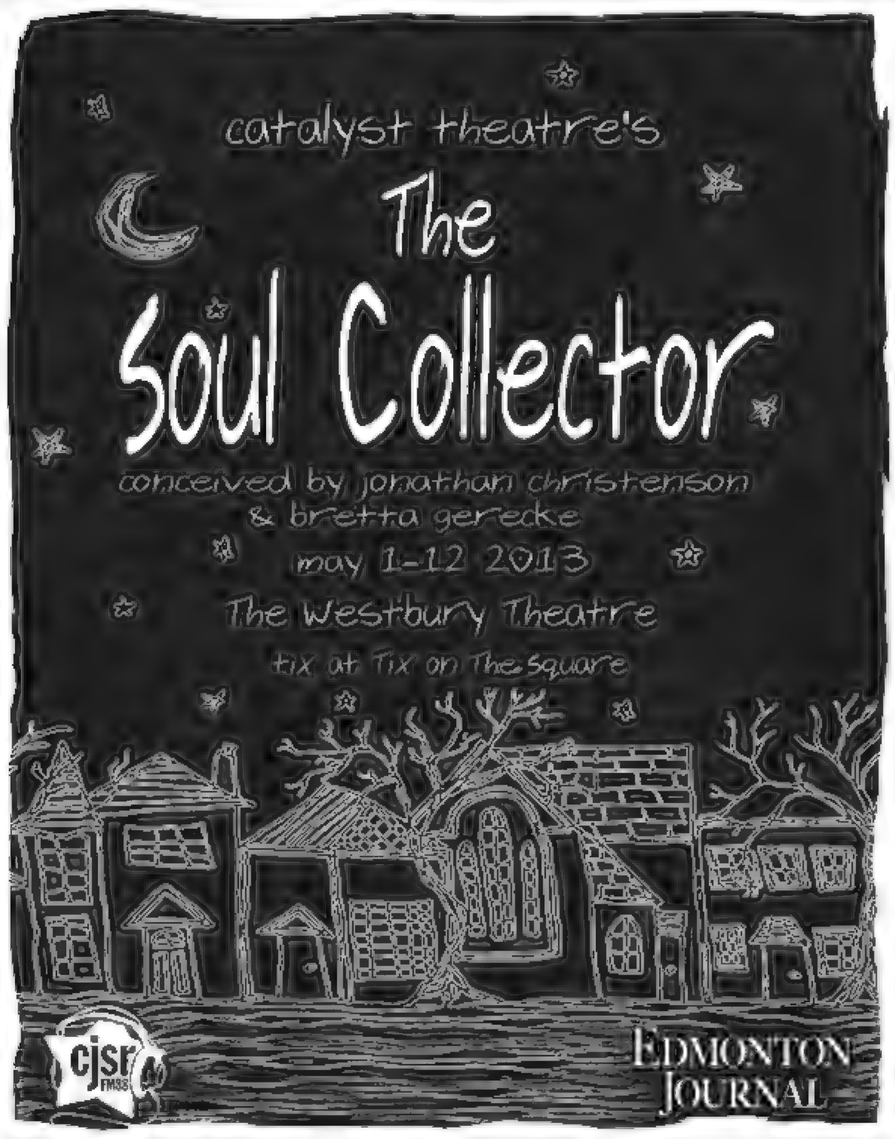
"Because (Penelope) waited for her husband for 20 years, and according to the myth she was sexually faithful (and) socially faithful, she's become this mythological figure of the perfect woman — how women were supposed to behave," says Brown. "She says right at the top of the play, 'I've become a stick to beat other women with, but don't follow my example.' "

"She became this icon of how the perfect woman should be," Brown continues. "Once you strip away this image of the perfect wife, what's left is this very real story that's heartbreaking about a woman who waited for the man she loved for 20 years, and it's asking, 'Was it worth it?' "

As the play explores the perspectives of 13 newly empowered women, Brown is optimistic that audience members will discover the realism and compassion inherent in a tale that embodies revenge, justice, love, loss and feminism.

"(*The Penelopiad* is) really about bringing the humanity into a myth, (giving) us a different way to anchor onto it and a different way to confront history, myth, tragedy (and) society," she says.

"I hope (audiences) take away a story of humanity — a story of real people going through real and hard and tragic circumstances. And they take away a sense that everyone deserves to have their stories told."





"Mario, if your hips could talk, we'd be censored tonight."

BRUNO TONIOLI
DANCING WITH THE STARS

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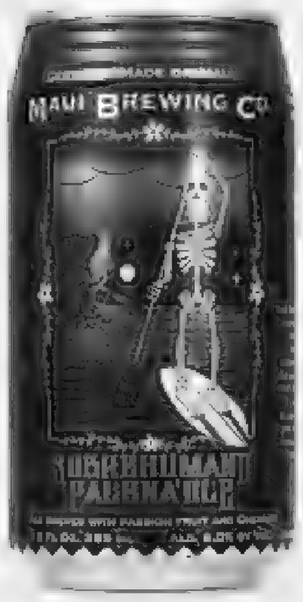
WRITTEN BY Ben Bourrie

Sobrehumano Palena 'Ole

Brewery: Jolly Pumpkin Artisan Ales and Maui Brewing Company
Available at: Sherbrooke Liquor Store (11819 St. Albert Trail)

With the days getting a little longer, spring has finally arrived and I'm craving a beer that's a little lighter and fruitier. Maui Brewing Company is known for bringing a little bit of tropical flair to their beer, and Jolly Pumpkin Artisan Ales takes known styles and turns them on their head, so the combination of these two breweries was a match made in heaven. Sobrehumano Palena 'Ole is brewed with cherries and liliko'i, so it should provide that much needed burst of spring and summer flavour.

The beer pours a reddish orange colour reminiscent of tropical punch, and has a small white head that disappears quickly. The nose is full of tart cherry and tropical fruits with a little vinegar and lemon rind through the middle. It finishes off with a splash of ripe fruit juice and some more cherries, and there's also a light mustiness to it.



The taste starts off with light tartness and then explodes with juicy tropical fruits and over ripe cherry. It finishes with a citrusy sourness that makes your mouth water for more. The body is light with medium carbonation so as not to weigh down such a vibrant beer.

Sobrehumano Palena 'Ole is a great beer that nicely balances the sweet ripe fruits with tartness and mustiness from the open fermentation. It does a proper job of providing a glimmer of hope to those of us still waiting for some real spring weather, and earns a 9/10. There may still be snow on the ground here, but with this beer in hand, you'll be that much closer to feeling like you're sitting on a beach in the sun.

Sports

Sports Editor
Andrew Jeffrey
Phone
780.492.6652
Email
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca
Volunteer
Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

Basketball grads look abroad to continue careers

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Andrea Ross
SPORTS STAFF ▪ @_ROSSANDREA

As their fifth year comes to a close and many senior Golden Bears and Pandas basketball players prepare to retire from their varsity careers, some travel-hungry athletes dream of transitioning to the professional level with an international contract.

With few national opportunities available for men and women, professional international contracts allow senior players to further develop their skills on the court while experiencing different cultures. Fifth-year Arts student and Pandas forward Anneka Bakker is one athlete hoping to extend her basketball career past the varsity level with an overseas contract.

Originally from Ottawa, Bakker's love for travel runs deep — her family owns a seasonal retail business that requires extensive globetrotting. Bali, Thailand, Vietnam and Bangladesh are some of the places she's visited through her family's business, and the company provides her with a solid option to fall back on if her dreams of playing professionally in Europe fall through.

"My goal is to play in Europe, so I'm talking to a couple friends who have agents over there and seeing what the options are," said Bakker. "I have family over there and I've always wanted to do a semester abroad, but that wasn't a possibility with basketball. But I've gotten to travel there with friends and it's such a hub for culture and so great for travelling. Once you're there, you can go anywhere."

Because opportunities in Canada for senior-level female basketball players are slim, Bakker is counting on a European contract to lengthen her career. Aside from the option of playing for the national team, Bakker explained that careers often end at the varsity level due to a lack of female league teams in Canada. Though an international contract would fulfill her travel and professional aspirations, Bakker has reservations over the possible financial stability that accompanies an international contract.

"About six years ago it was quite profitable," Bakker explained. "But from what I gather now, if you're not going to be pursued by the top league, you'll get sustenance wages and a bit more than that. It's not the easiest thing to get a contract over there."

> **"There is pressure, but if you want a long career in basketball and you want it that much, there's going to be pressure ... You're an import and there are only a certain number of imports allowed on each team. So you're expected to perform every night, above and beyond."**
>
> DANIEL FERGUSON
> FORMER GOLDEN BEARS BASKETBALL PLAYER

One athlete who has managed to get a European contract is former Golden Bear Daniel Ferguson. As a Canada West all-star straight through the 2010 to 2012 season, Ferguson ended his CIS career on a high note as he helped the Bears reach the CIS national championship game last year. As a guard for the BC Boncourt Red Team of the LNBA, Switzerland's top basketball circuit, one of the challenges he has personally encountered is the loneliness that comes with living in a northern Swiss town with a population of about 1,300.

"It's been unreal. You get your highs and lows like any other league, but it's magnified because you're out of your comfort zone, and you're all alone," Ferguson said. "I'm married, but my wife's not here, so I just play basketball, eat, sleep and I read and write, but it's all on my own."

Like Bakker, Ferguson's love of travel and culture was a big factor in seeking an international contract — but he has come to realize the demands of his team leave little opportunity for exploration.

"I'll go to Geneva and Zurich every now and then, but you're not here backpacking it up. You're here to play basketball," Ferguson said. "But I'm here for all the experiences. Five years ago I'd be like, 'Hey, it's just basketball,' but right now I do want to learn the language and experience the culture."

Ferguson considers himself lucky in signing with a European team. Unable to get a professional contract after finishing his undergraduate degree, he turned to the Bears to further develop his skills on the court and make necessary connections with international agencies. While he admits playing with the Bears alongside juggling schoolwork involves a certain amount of pressure, adjusting to a new culture, atmosphere and style of play in Europe while trying to prove himself on the court every day is a big difference from playing at home.

"There is pressure, but if you really want a long career in basketball and you want it that much, there's going to be pressure. The hardest part is adapting to the style of play," Ferguson said. "It's basketball, but it's a different kind of basketball. It's definitely a more cohesive team game, and it's not a unique attribute to be able to do everything — it's expected here. You're an import, and there are only a certain number of imports allowed on each team. So you're expected to perform every night, above and beyond.

"What was considered great at the college level, you're expected to do that now. That's a big difference."



MATT HIRJI

As fortunate as he is to have achieved international success, Ferguson believes the leadership skills, motivation and work ethic he attained by playing for the Bears provided him with the perfect foundation for a successful professional career. For athletes about to graduate from the U of A's basketball programs, he encourages taking advantage of every opportunity available while being realistic about future goals.

"Go where the opportunity goes, because you're playing basketball and it's great," Ferguson said. "You know, I would go until my body crumbles, but I do want to pick up my children in a couple years when I have them, so I don't know. I'm just playing it by ear."

Japanese volleyball visits Edmonton from earthquake-affected Fukushima

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The journey a CIS team must take take to reach the national championships is long and difficult, but no university team has gone through quite as much as the international opponents the junior under-18 Pandas volleyball squad played last week.

On Thursday afternoon, a volleyball team from Aizu Gakuho high school in Fukushima, Japan visted the Saville Sports Centre on campus to play the U18 Pandas. Two years removed from a disastrous tsunami and earthquake that shook the Fukushima region, the players on the Japanese high school team have taken to volleyball as an inspiration for their community while their homes recover.

"The thing is they focus on never being beat. That was their motto: to never be beat by the earthquake," Aizu head coach Kikuchi Kenji said through a translator. "Volleyball and not losing was a strength factor to them, because they didn't let themselves get beat by the hurricane and earthquake effects to their society. They kept playing and looked for ways to keep competing."

The match was set up by a friend of the junior Pandas team — who have called themselves the Pandas Ganbatte, meaning fighting spirit in Japanese. The varsity Pandas team has learned so much from their games against Japanese opponents that varsity Pandas head coach and junior Pandas president Laurie Eisler wanted to give that same opportunity to this younger volleyball team. Both coaches hoped this game would start a long-term partnership that would see future matchups between the two squads.

"Sometimes when it's across the world you don't really have a good grasp of the magnitude of destruction. I think if our girls were to go there and see it with their own eyes, that would ring true," Eisler said. "What's so awesome about the Japanese is the fighting spirit that they compete with. Fighting spirit is the determination, resiliency that they compete with all the time.

"When you see it, it's not a fluke or a regional thing, it's a Japanese thing. When (the varsity team) visited in August, they were blown away by it. They have no business competing with us in a sport where height is a factor, but they overcome it, just like they overcome other challenges they face.

"They're an incredibly inspiring people, highly motivated, respectful, kind. As far as a partner in this kind of exchange program, you can't ask for anything better. It's just a matter of if we can ever reciprocate and give anything back to repay them."

Besides a different style of play that the Alberta team brings against Aizu with their superior height, that will help Aizu be better prepared for different kinds of opponents when they return home, Kenji is also grateful for the opportunity this gives his players to learn more about other cultures.

> **"They focus on never being beat. That was their motto, never being beat by the earthquake ... They didn't let themselves get beat by the hurricane and earthquake effects to their society."**
>
> KIKUCHI KENJI
> AIZU GAKUHO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL COACH

"Coming from a small island like Japan to Canada gives greater insight to the world," Kenji said.

"Understanding there's more to it. (The players) don't get out much, so you get to see a lot more of the world learning different cultures."

Meanwhile, simply being able to play volleyball and succeed in their sport gives inspiration to the players and to their community back home. The team knows how fortunate they are to still be able to play after the damage to Fukushima, and Kenji hopes the trip to Alberta and success they've had — including a 3–1 win over the Pandas — will better the players.

"It shows that they're part of a big cause and that they should never give up, and it helps other people in the area to know that they should never give up," Kenji said. "There's kind of a spirit and determination that they're going to make a statement for everyone living in their area so people can believe just like they're still playing, because they find volleyball to be their happiness.

"They know it will make them a better person if they can understand there's a lot of things going on, keep working hard and see past all that negativity and destruction."

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Roller derby popularity surge reflected in local E-Ville team

ROLLER DERBY ROUNDUP

Atta Almasi
SPORTS STAFF

For those who may be unfamiliar with it, the term roller derby may conjure up images of the rough and tumble sport portrayed in the 2009 movie *Whip It*, starring a rough-around-the-edges heroine played by Canadian actress Ellen Page.

But according to the E-Ville Roller Derby's director of athletics, Buffy Goodman, also known as "Urethra Franklin," not everything portrayed in the film accurately reflects the sport in real life.

"Like any movie, there are definitely some inaccuracies in its portrayal," Goodman said. "It's not about fighting or violence; it's a real sport incorporating actual strategy. *Whip It* made roller derby look like a bunch of goons in fishnets racing around maliciously fighting each other. It also made derby look like it was easy to learn, as though learning to skate could happen in a few weeks."

Despite its drawbacks, Goodman adds that the film has helped to grow the sport as well.

"Learning to skate takes months. Learning the nuances of the game takes years. The thing that rang true to me about *Whip It* was the camaraderie. We're friends, we're women from very different backgrounds who nonetheless, at the heart of it, love the sport and have lots in common."

Though some of the rules and struggles of the game may be difficult to understand at first glance, Goodman explains that there are basic objectives that are easy to grasp.

"It's a full contact sport played on quad skates (not inlines) involving a group of skaters called blockers who initiate contact with their opponents in order to allow their jammer (a fast skater who has a star on her helmet) to score points," Goodman explained. "The blockers attempt to hit the opposing jammer and help their jammer through the opponents simultaneously. It's a really fast-paced, action-packed sport."

Although roller derby is one of the few female sports that employs full body contact, Goodman asserts that she's only had a positive response and reception from the males she knows.

> **"Learning to skate takes months. Learning the nuances of the game takes years."**
>
> BUFFY GOODMAN
> E-VILLE ROLLER DERBY DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

"All the men in my life are proud of me," Goodman said, adding that the sport has seen its fair share of broken bones, knee injuries and concussions.

"My sport encourages strength, both physically and mentally, and they see this as positive."

Another thing the sport of roller derby is known for — other than its roughness — is the unique customization that takes place among its athletes and teams. Goodman's alias, Urethra Franklin, is just one example.

"At the beginning, I think it was a way for women to have another identity — by day, a mild-mannered professional or mother ... by night, a rollerskating superhero. The revival of roller derby in the early 2000s had its roots in punk rock and third wave feminism," Goodman said.

"I think a lot of people associate roller derby with tattoos and fishnets because of this. But really, it was more a reclamation of identity — this is how I want to be seen: as a tough, no-nonsense, take no prisoners woman ... (But in) some of the super competitive leagues, many top players have ditched their monikers and are using their real names — that's becoming more widespread every year. You won't see many fishnets at championship-level games."

As the profile and popularity of roller derby continues to grow, both across the province and throughout the entire world, Goodman remains hopeful that it's only a matter of time before roller derby starts receiving some Olympic treatment.

"Roller derby is often referred to as the fastest growing sport in North America. According to World Flat Track Roller Derby Association (WFTDA) stats, as of 2001, there was only one flat track league in North America," Goodman said. "By 2012, this number has grown to over 1,100 and counting, not including banked track leagues. Everywhere you look, there is a league popping up — and Alberta is no exception.

"Roller sports are one of eight sports in consideration for the 2020 Olympics. Whether or not that will include roller derby is unknown. It's definitely gaining momentum; new teams are popping up in communities all the time."

As for the roller derby community in Edmonton, Goodman attests that hosting events such as the inaugural Canadian National roller derby tournament and having a boatload of fans to cheer on the skaters has only helped in boosting the sports popularity and profile in the River City.

And for those who are interested in trying out the sport or seeing what all the hype is about, the team's next game is April 20 at the Kingsway Hangar, with tickets available at brownpapertickets.com.

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Rugby club improvements bring hope of becoming varsity

RUGBY ROUNDUP

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The growth of a club team at the U of A as part of the school's recreational services can be a slow and difficult process, but the men's rugby club has high hopes for becoming a varsity team on campus.

Currently, only female rugby is recognized as a varsity sport in CIS, but with the reintroduction of both male and female rugby sevens to the Summer Olympics in 2016, the men's club on campus has become more relevant, with the opportunity to have players leave the program to play for Canada at the Olympics.

Players have the chance to take their first step towards the Olympics by getting noticed by the Canadian national team.

"I had a brief run with the national team after my first year, the sevens team. It was actually because of my involvement with Team Alberta and playing at nationals," rugby club player Ryan Wilkes said.

The club is just coming off a national tournament in Victoria, B.C. that saw them finish seventh out of 12 teams.

Besides the regular rugby 15s season that sees the school play their Alberta rivals from Lethbridge, Calgary and Mount Royal, the Victoria tournament is the club's only chance to test themselves against Canadian schools from rugby hubs like B.C. and Ontario.

B.C. teams such as Victoria — who defeated the U of A at their home tournament — play rugby all year round and compete throughout the summer, unlike the U of A's club.

The tournament is also the players' only chance to showcase their play to Team Canada coaches and scouts.

"Going out (to Victoria) is great, because the Canada coaches are watching our guys and doing a little identification process on new talent in the country," Wilkes said.

"If we compared ourselves to other Alberta teams, we're always right near the top. It's always us or U of C, and it's been that way for as long as I can remember," U of A men's rugby club president Skyler Dietze said.

"Based on the performance in Victoria, we're right on par with some of the elite squads. We had a couple unlucky breaks to our games and we played some good teams ... We had a lot of fitness on our side. The coaches were telling us after — games against McMaster and UVic, games we lost — at the end of the half and end of each game, they were hunched over trying to catch their breath and we were ready to go.

"That was something we had over them. Skill and experience-wise, it's hard to tell, but we're improving every year."

The club currently features 28 U of A students and five community members who work with the team. Participation rises and falls over time, with the club having as many as 60 players some years, then losing many to graduation.

The players try to get the word out through telling their other students and rugby players about the club, while Dietze helped set up a booth in clubs fair this year to raise the team's profile on campus.

"A lot of people didn't know we even existed. It is difficult because we're not with athletics, but we're working towards hopefully becoming varsity, just like the Pandas have with their rugby team," Dietze said.



SUPPLIED | JUDY TEASDALE

But the club faces a difficult challenge of overcoming the turnaround that can hurt the team each fall, with too many older players graduating and leaving the club.

"The problem we saw this year is a lot of our team this year is pretty old. There's a lot of fourth-year guys on the team," Wilkes said.

"So we're trying to get more young guys out, but unfortunately that hasn't been going the way we wanted."

Dietze is still hopeful that with a display of dedicated commitment to the club, that the athletics department will recognize the group as a varsity team.

"I think it would be wise to adopt our team. The Pandas rugby team has huge success and they send players to the national teams all the time. To raise recognition, I think, would be beneficial for the university to raise their reputation, to say they sent players to the Olympics."

Before the club can become a varsity team on campus funded by U of A athletics, Dietze hopes to see the team improve their tournament performances each year as they enter more competitions and raise awareness on campus.

While other areas of Canada remain larger hubs for rugby than the prairie provinces, Dietze sees the game growing in the near future — hopefully enough to warrant becoming a varsity team soon.

CIS and NCAA women's hockey grads face uncertain futures in playing careers

Small Canadian women's league and opportunities overseas in Europe present only chances for graduating Pandas to continue competing

HOCKEY ROUNDUP

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The course of professional women's hockey in Canada over the last several years has been rocky. The Western Women's Hockey League shrank to two teams amidst claims it was folding, while the Canadian Women's Hockey League grew at a slow pace to expand to western Canada. All this uncertainty leaves senior Pandas hockey players with few options for a future playing career.

While Bears hockey players have been known to move onto North American minor hockey leagues — last year's team captain Greg Gardner recently joined the East Coast league's Colorado Eagles — there are few opportunities for Pandas players to do the same without travelling overseas. Fifth-year Pandas forward Sarah Hilworth had to start thinking about her playing future before her final CIS season began this past fall, but her plans changed when a leg injury ended her season early.

"As soon as (the injury) happened, I didn't really think about long term, I just kind of focused on getting better at that moment." Hilworth said.

"When I started talking to my surgeon more and more, it became clear that I wasn't going to come back this year. I just started focusing my energy into coming back next year. It wasn't really an option not to — I just knew that was the way I needed to finish my college career."

Hilworth's plans have since been scrapped in favour of an appeal to CIS to allow her to return for a final season.

Before the injury, Hilworth was looking ahead to playing in Europe. CIS players often have the opportunity to continue their career overseas, with teams usually paying at most for basic living expenses. Meanwhile, other players have visited Europe, teaching hockey to female European teams.

"It really hit me over the summer going into my fifth year, thinking about what's next for me. I didn't really have a plan," Hilworth said.

"It changed 100 times and finally I was like, 'Let's just see how everything goes.' I started contacting teams in Europe because there's a possibility to go over there and they'll pay housing allowance, food allowance, car allowance ... That was probably going to happen at the end of this year. One person told me to contact them at Christmas and we would talk more about it, but then I got hurt."

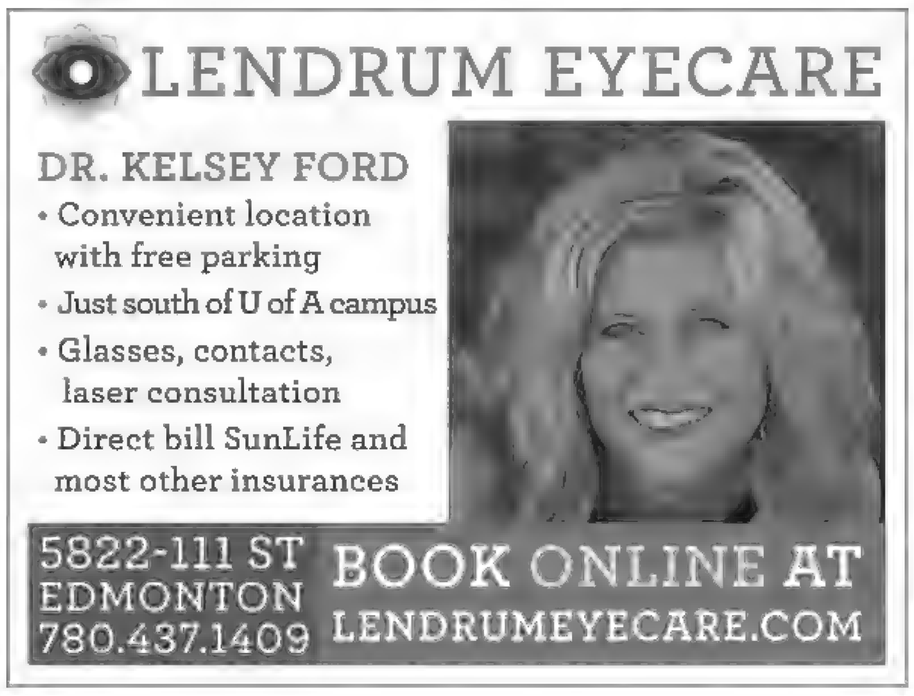
While Europe is more of a long-term goal for Hilworth, in the short term she's looking to join the Alberta Honeybadgers in the CWHL after she leaves CIS. While the league is still in its infancy with only five teams, Hilworth sees a demand for the league to grow in the future, with many strong hockey players in NCAA and CIS wanting to continue their careers and fans showing an interest in finding other hockey leagues besides the NHL during last year's lockout.

"People started to appreciate the game rather than the entity of the NHL (during the lockout)." Hilworth said.

"I started seeing more people coming out to our games and being more engaged. At our fundraiser game, we had the most people we've ever had to come watch us play.

"I'm not ready to be done with competitive play. My first option is to come back, but if not I think I'm going to keep training hard like I am, make sure I'm back and ready to go at 100 per cent, maybe look at options where I can play next year at that competitive level."









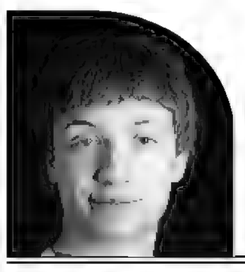
POINT - COUNTERPOINT



FAHIM HASSAN

NCAA: exploitation vs. amateurism

NCAA taking advantage of student-athletes by not paying them their rightful due



Curtis Auch
POINT

What's the difference between a college athlete and a sweatshop worker? Sweatshop workers are paid.

This old joke might over-dramatize the state of NCAA sports, but it still rings true. Basketball and football players work long hours in revenue producing sports that demand significant physical and mental exertion. They risk injury every day — often without being fully insured — and despite their schools and coaches earning through television revenue from their efforts, they earn no share of the profits.

In many ways, it's the perfect business model: a corporation that doesn't have to pay its employees. Somehow, a system that would be an outrage in any other industry in America has become the status quo for college sports.

For the players' sake, this has to change. NCAA athletes sacrifice too much to not receive pay. They forego the right to hold other jobs, preventing them from earning money in the short term. They have limited time for schoolwork, making their GPAs less competitive compared to others in their programs.

Many of them also have to sacrifice internship opportunities or volunteer hours in order to play, making it more difficult to find job opportunities after college. None of this matters for a student who turns pro, of course, but relatively few athletes do. There needs to be some measure in place to protect students who sacrifice so much for their schools' athletic programs.

Some argue the players don't need to be paid since they receive compensation in the form of scholarships, but these scholarships usually only amount to a few thousand dollars, and this rarely covers all their expenses. A study in 2011 concluded that many student athletes with so-called "full scholarships" actually lived below the poverty line.

Others claim that paying student athletes would ruin the spirit of amateurism and turn the NCAA into a commercialized league. But that battle has already been lost, with owners, coaches and schools earning millions of dollars through tickets, TV deals and merchandise. Allowing players to earn a share of these profits doesn't make the NCAA more commercial — if anything, it makes it more equitable.

Of course, many still disagree. They say it would create a salary hierarchy, benefiting the best athletes but leaving those who are less successful in poverty. But this happens even without official payment, as several top athletes have already been involved in under-the-table deals with their respective schools. Allowing players to earn money would put a stop to these scandals, and give lesser players a chance to receive earnings.

Paying student-athletes may not be a popular idea right now, but as more people examine the issue, they'll hopefully see it's the fairest choice. Whether we like it or not, college sports have become a business, and like any business, it needs to pay its employees.

Ideals of amateurism should be more important than paying student-athletes salaries



Atta Almasi
COUNTERPOINT

While it would be nonsensical not to concede that student-athletes competing in NCAA revenue-producing sports should be guaranteed things — such as the actual cost of attendance, longer scholarship terms, the ability to hold a part-time job and a right to profit from the usage of their likeness — paying them salaries is a huge judgment error.

Many of the reasons given, such as proposing to eliminate the controversial contract clause that cedes rights to the NCAA of a player's likeness for "forever and throughout the universe," may be logically and morally sound, but there could be disastrous ramifications if the NCAA begins to pay its student-athletes.

To be fair, many who adamantly oppose paying student-athletes do so mostly due to jealousy born out of a resentment stemming from the experience of going into debt after paying their own way through college. While both the parents and students who make these claims are not wrong in their staunch desire not to see student-athletes paid, they fail to recognize that they, unlike the student-athletes, don't bring in millions in revenue to their institutions, nor are they forbidden from getting another job while they attend school.

Furthermore, the great misnomer of 'free education' provided by full-ride scholarships floated by these same folk fail to take into account the countless hours those student-athletes provide in return to the school for their scholarships.

The reasons why student-athletes shouldn't receive salaries should instead be based upon the logistical and idealistic problems that paying student-athletes would pose for the NCAA and its member institutions.

If D-I football and basketball athletes started receiving salaries, Title IX, the controversial equal rights legislation guaranteeing equal funding on college campuses to both men's and women's athletics would all but require female student-athletes in lesser, non-revenue producing sports get paid too — even given the fact that only a small fraction of schools actually run profits from their so-called "revenue-producing" sports. It's precisely because of the current system of not paying student-athletes that all the other sports can get funded, along with various academic and research programs.

Additionally, turning student-athletes in some sports into paid employees will result in the explicit violation of the spirit of amateurism to which collegiate sports are supposed to vigourously uphold.

Watching NCAA schools that do not offer athletic scholarships win during March Madness and D-III schools Williams and Amherst compete in the "Biggest Little Game in America," help echo the notion that no matter how false the reality or cynical the spectator, the Olympian spirit of pride for one's school, passion for one's sport and strong perseverance of will are more valuable than any amount of monetary greed.

And it's those ideals, the belief in giving it the old "college try," that are the reason why collegiate athletics allow us to believe, once again, in sport.

Bears scout new recruits to improve on last year's finish



KEVIN SCHENK

HOCKEY **ROUNDUP**

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The hockey season may be over, but Ian Herbers' job as Golden Bears head coach hasn't slowed down, as CIS recruiting for next season becomes more urgent in the offseason.

Coming off his first year as head coach, Herbers and his team were disappointed with their finish at the national championships, with the U of A not qualifying for the final game. But now Herbers must find ways to fill up holes and improve the Bears to ensure a better result for next season.

Each summer, CIS teams recruit from overage players in the Canadian Hockey League and the top Junior A leagues. The only question mark on most players before they can commit to the U of A, however, is if an NHL team comes calling at the entry draft this summer.

"We look at the cream of the crop. All the guys we talk to have the chance to sign NHL contracts — guys who are right on the bubble of the NHL and not getting that NHL deal," Herbers said.

"Obviously, the high-end guys are signing an NHL contract and there's no questions (about that), but we're looking for the best players on that bubble."

As is the case with most U of A teams, the ideal Golden Bears players have to excel both athletically and academically to make the team and continue playing throughout the season. They need to be players who show the type of character Herbers wants from his team, not just skilled hockey players. For players coming from the CHL, the transition can be tough — while CHL teams can feature phenoms who will be future NHL stars, they're also teams made up of 16 and 17-year-old players as opposed to CIS schools that feature many players in their 20s.

> **"We sell (recruits) on the tradition and the excellence that's expected in this program. We want to challenge for a national title every year — that's the bottom line."**
>
> IAN HERBERS
> GOLDEN BEARS HOCKEY HEAD CAOCH

After his first season on the job, some of Herbers' recruits from last season already paid off in being crucial parts of the team: former Edmonton Oil Kings forward Rhett Rachinski stood out with his defensive play and penalty kill, while Torrie Dyck, a forward for Augustana college in the ACAC, was one of the Bears' top scorers this season. Dyck was a "diamond in the rough" according to Herbers, a player who had been overlooked in the past by other schools, but developed to earn a place on one of the top two lines at the U of A.

"That one was kind of fortunate and fell into our lap, because (Dyck) had to come to the U of A because he was in Augustana and he needed to finish his finance degree here," Herbers explained.

"He wasn't sure if he could play hockey at this level and he wasn't sure if his academic schedule was going to be a fit for him ... He missed some practices, he did some things on his own to make sure his conditioning level was up to where it needed to be so when he got his chance, he made the most of it."

The ways Herbers and his players entice recruits to come to the U of A is straightforward. The Bears program is one that expects excellence and has a record number of national and Can-West championships. Herbers and the Bears players who talk to their former teammates about coming to the U of A don't just talk about last year's performance, but about 100 years of being an elite CIS team.

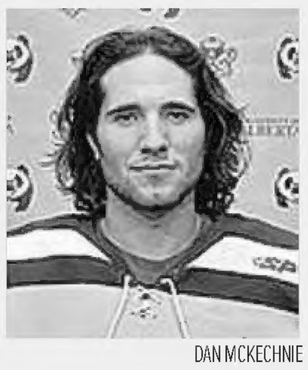
"We sell them on the tradition and the excellence that's expected in this program. We want to challenge for a national title every year — that's the bottom line," Herbers said.

"When you're coming in, you're expected to carry your weight to get us to challenge for a national title and still at the same time excel academically."

With only two fifth-years graduating from the program, there aren't very many spots opening up for new players, but Herbers maintains that these recruits can still prove themselves and excel enough to play for the Bears next season. Specifically, Herbers is looking for more size on defence, even though the team doesn't expect to lose anyone from the position who was on the team this season.

"If they've got the work ethic, the skill and they compete, that's the big thing. They'll decide it," Herbers said. "Just because he's a fifth-year player doesn't mean he's guaranteed a lot of ice time. You've got to come and earn your spot every year and earn where you're playing on the team every year."

player spotlight — Torrie Dyck

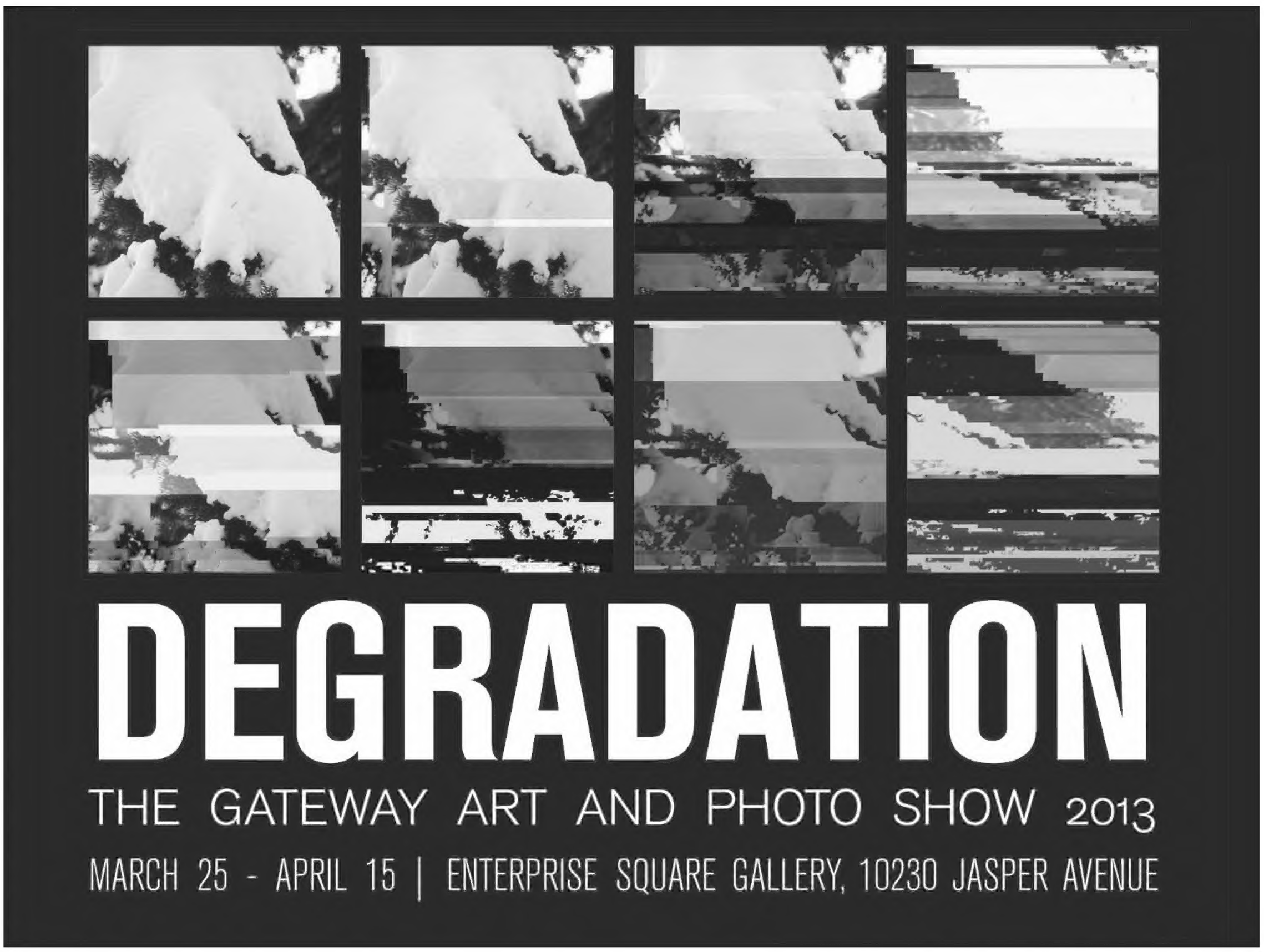


DAN MCKECHNIE

Left Wing
Eligibility Year: 3
5'10", 185 lbs.
07/25/1988
Hudson Bay, SK

- Won ACAC championship with Augustana in 2011-12
- Was named ACAC league MVP in 2011-12
- Led Augustana in scoring for three straight seasons from 2009-10 to 2011-12.
- Led ACAC in scoring in 2010-11

Season	Team	League	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM
2010/11	Augustana University	ACAC	28	25	38	63	12
2011/12	Augustana University	ACAC	18	14	18	32	10
2012/13	U of A Golden Bears	CIS	24	11	13	24	8



Diversions

Design & Production Editor
Ross Vincent

Phone
780.492.6663

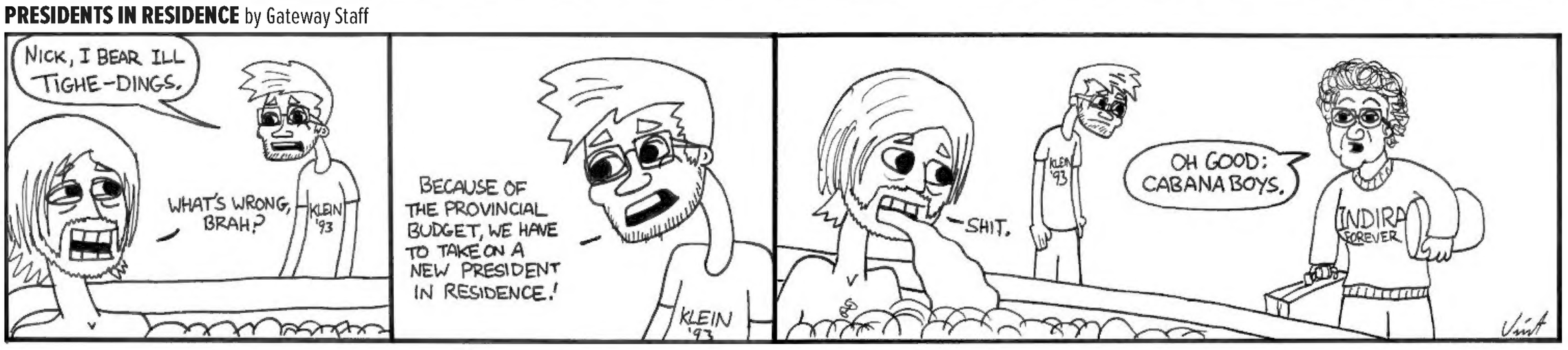
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Volunteer
Comics meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

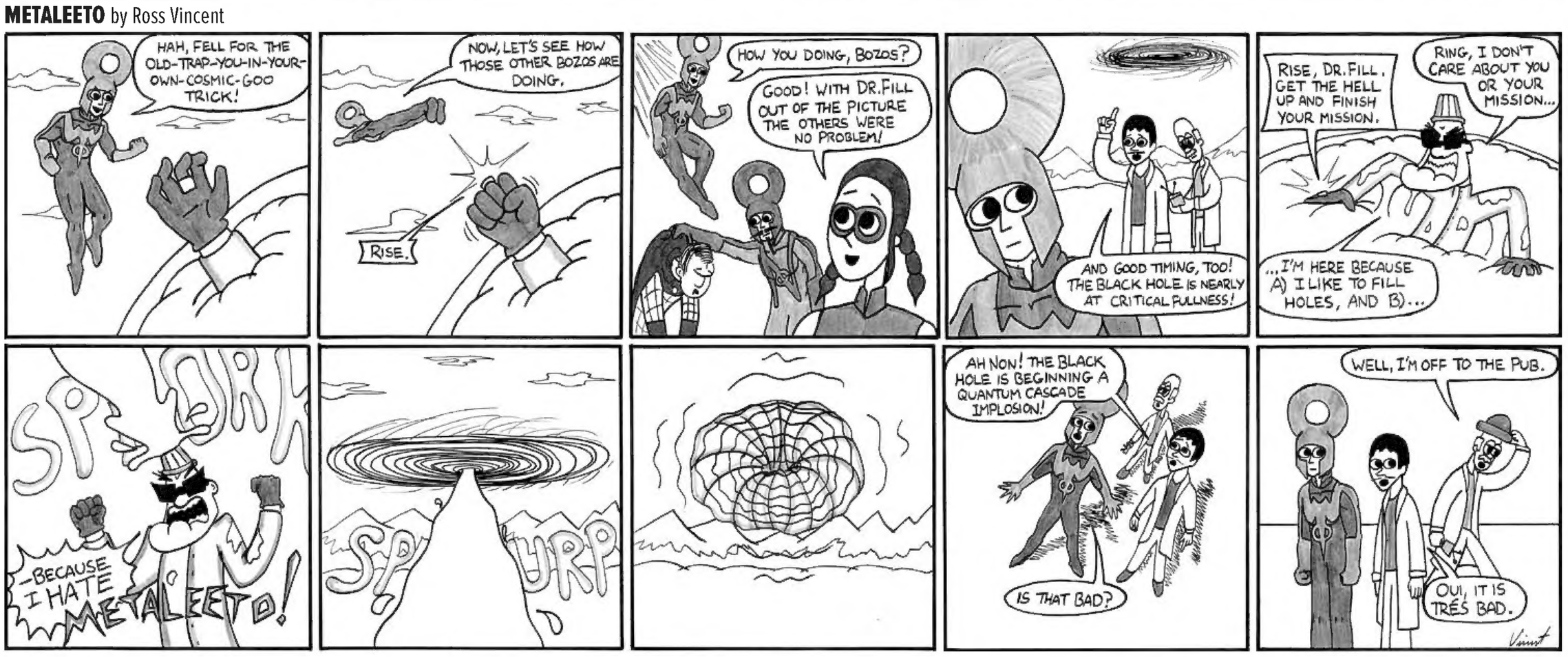
SUBSUB by Stefano Jun



PRESIDENTS IN RESIDENCE by Gateway Staff



METALEETO by Ross Vincent



RICE FROM SCRATCH by H&M Madsen



FOLLOW @EMILIEST by Emilie St. Hilaire



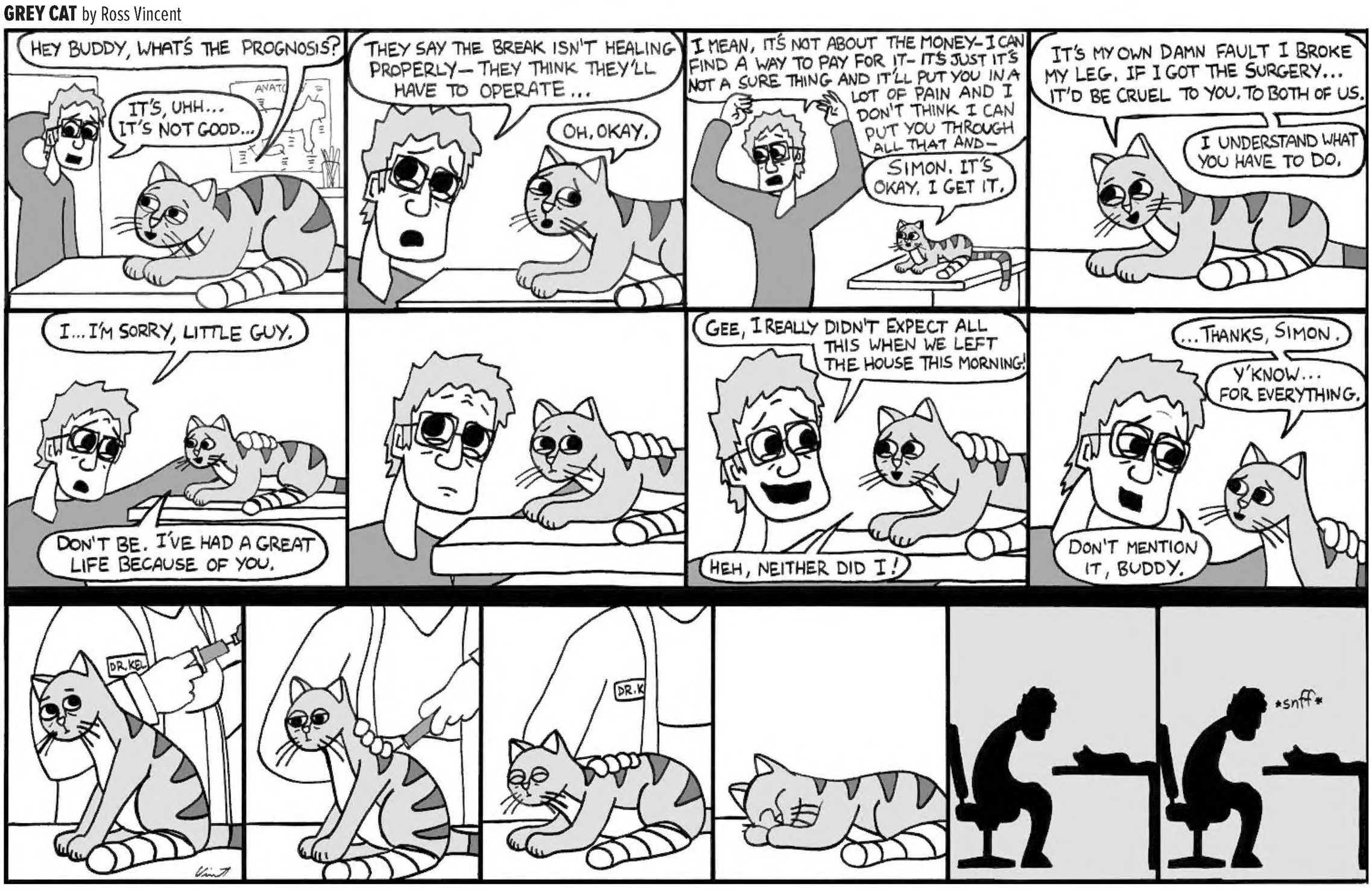
PHOTO OF THE **MONTH**



JULIANNA DAMER

MY REBELLION Making my escape to freedom through my bedroom window.

GREY CAT by Ross Vincent



TRIPLE-THREAT **SUDOKU** Sudoweb.com

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ask Dr. Donna

WRITTEN BY **Dr. Donna Cave**



Dear Dr. Donna: You missed a chance to educate many young women when you answered the question about smelly crotches/vaginas. One of the leading causes of odour is tight, synthetic pants that don't allow air to circulate and promote the growth of anaerobic, stinky bacteria. So women often need to take a break from the stylish, sexy polyester and rayon blends.

Dear Astute Reader: How right you are! Yeast vaginal infections have also been connected with those types of garments, and even thong underwear can potentially spread bacteria forward causing bladder infections. I personally took a break from wearing sexy tight clothes quite some time ago, although not entirely for health reasons. It just seemed kinder to the rest of the world not to showcase my bum in spandex.

Tight clothing of any material can be the cause of a whole host of medical problems, and it isn't just women wearing tight fashions these days. Generations ago, it was very fashionable for women to make their waists impossibly tiny by cinching up corsets, which caused ladies to faint with great regularity. Unless we're in a *Fifty Shades of Grey* mood, modern women scoff at such nonsense now, but then are just as guilty when we stuff ourselves into Spanx, which were originally designed to smooth out panty lines, but are now being used in a desperate attempt to hold in the flab. Other undergarments can be just as bad: up to 70 per cent of women wear the wrong bra size. There's back pain, shoulder pain, neck pain and restricted breathing — but damn we look good! Or did, until that rather embarrassing panic attack in Bio 108.

"Tight pants syndrome" is a term coined by an American internist who noted that his patients complaining of abdominal discomfort, bloating, heartburn and belching had pants that measured on average 7.5 cm smaller in diameter than the person's corresponding body measurement. A British survey noted that skinny jeans caused one in 10 men to have groin or bladder issues, and one in five reported a twisted testicle. Ouch! Snug clothing also increases testicular temperature, which decreases sperm counts. Tight jeans have been reported to cause a rare condition called *lipoatrophia semicircularis*, where folks can get ribbed depressions on the thighs due to localized pressure. More commonly, *meralgia paresthetica* is caused by pressure to the nerve that runs through the lower pelvis to the outside and front of the thighs, causing rather annoying numbness in the area. This can also happen if you wear a tool belt and a tutu at the same time, so avoid that fashion trend as well.

Shirts get in the action too, as 67 per cent of men buy collars too small for their necks. Tight collars and ties can increase pressure to the eyes, and increase muscular tension in the back and shoulders. And we haven't even talked about shoes! In defence of tight clothing, my son pointed out the current rage in compression sportswear, which claims benefit in muscle recovery time through use of tight gym wear. Sorry, bud — most evidence appears to refute the claim. So, folks, next time you get strange looks when you wear your pajamas to Safeway, be smug in the certainty that you are looking after your health.

Health and Wellness questions? E-mail me at ***askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca*** *or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at* ***thegatewayonline.ca****!*

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to *www.gatewayclassifieds.ca*

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Grasschopper Landscaping is hiring hard working men and women for the upcoming season. Positions include landscape construction and grounds maintenance. To apply please email a resume to careers@GrassChopperLandscaping.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HUGE RUMMAGE SALE Holy Trinity Anglican Church 101 St & 84 Ave, Edmonton FRI. APR. 26 6:00 - 9:00 PM SAT. APR. 27 9:30 - 1:00 PM Furniture, Clothing, Books, Household, Toys, Treasures Something for Everyone! Free Admission!

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Fully furnished Whyte Ave area newly renovated clean cozy bright suite. Walking distance Old Strathcona, U of A, river valley. Quiet non-smoker please. $900 mo. Incl utilities laundry cable/net parking. Avail. Immediately. 780-902-5916

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteer to donate 10 mL blood & 3 urine samples for chemistry research. Healthy 18-40 yrs. $30 reward. Contact: ttt1@ualberta.ca

EDMONTON PARTY GUIDE

HOCKEY on Whyte NIGHT

THE PLACE TO WATCH THE GAME ON FIFTY HD TV'S

1/2 PRICE { KOKANEE 18oz PINTS, WINGS AND RIBS

THE OLD STRATHCONA RACK

THE PINT
WHYTE AVE



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

$3 DRINKS $4 SHOTS
AFTER 8:00PM

FEATURED DJ'S AT 10:00PM

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

LEGENDARY
75¢ DRAFT 4.5oz
THURSDAYS
PLUS $4 HIBALLS (1oz) ALL NIGHT

NO COVER ALL NIGHT WITH STUDENT ID

KNOXVILLE'S TAVERN

PARTY CUP
FRIDAYS

$4
HIBALLS + DRAFT

Let's get rowdy!

KNOXVILLE'S TAVERN